Parallel History
of the
Jewish Monarchy

PART II.

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THE PARALLEL HISTORY OF THE JEWISH MONARCHY.

PART II.

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THE PARALLEL HISTORY OF THE JEWISH MONARCHY, FROM THE REVISED VERSION.

ARRANGED BY

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WITH

AN INTRODUCTION

REPRINTED FROM

"THE LITERATURE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT"

BY

S. R. DRIVER, D.D.

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF HEBREW AND CANON OF CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

PART II.
THE DIVIDED MONARCHY

SECOND EDITION.

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PREFACE.

THE history of the Jewish Monarchy, as given in the Old Testament, is embodied in two narratives, compiled at different times and from different points of view. In the following pages they are combined. When two accounts of the same event are given, they are printed in parallel columns, so as to admit of comparison. When only one account is given, it is printed across the page in the usual way. To facilitate the finding of any given reign, the names of the kings are printed in heavy type the first time they occur on a page.

I trust the book may be serviceable even to advanced Students, who wish to collate for themselves the two authorities; but it is intended primarily for use in Schools. The difficulty of following the history in two sometimes concurrent and sometimes divergent authorities, both bound up in the same Bible—and often in very small type—is apt to drive boys to 'Compendiums' and 'Manuals,' in which a clear narrative is given, but the dignity and beauty of the original are entirely lost. By re-arranging the text I hope to have made the study of this part of the Bible easier and more attractive.

I wish to express my gratitude to the Joint Committee of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge for leave to print the text of the Revised Version. To Professor Driver, for most readily and kindly allowing me to reprint, as an Introduction, a passage from his 'Literature of the Old Testament,' my warmest thanks are due.

R. S.

HARROW, *March*, 1896.

NOTE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

THIS Second Edition of Part II. is a reprint of the First Edition with some trifling rearrangements of the text, and the addition of titles to the different sections of the narrative.

R. S.

HARROW, *May*, 1901.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE AND CONTENTS.

[In spite of the regular and minute references given in both narratives, the chronology is full of difficulties. The references themselves are at times contradictory, and the number of years allotted to the kings of Judah, between the Revolt of Israel and the Fall of Samaria, considerably exceeds the number given to the kings of Israel. There is thus, apart from other difficulties, obviously room for correction. The Monuments of Assyria furnish a certain number of fixed points, but the materials for a complete revision are not yet in our hands. The dates in the following Table are in the main those given in Riehm's "Handwörterbuch," and quoted in Smith's "Dictionary of the Bible." The figures in small type are merely inserted as guides. They must not be read as dates of the events which may happen to be placed opposite to them in the table of contents. I am indebted to Professor George Adam Smith for his advice, and for several improvements in the Table.]

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INTRODUCTION[1].

ON THE ADDITIONAL MATTER IN CHRONICLES,

By S. R. DRIVER, D.D.,

REGIUS PROFESSOR OF HEBREW, AND CANON OF CHRIST CHURCH, OXFORD.

IT does not fall within the province of the present work to examine the relation of the narrative of Chronicles to that of Samuel and Kings, except so far as may serve to illustrate the method or point of view of the compiler. The following general remarks must therefore suffice. It does not seem possible to treat the additional matter in Chronicles as strictly and literally historical. In many cases the figures are incredibly high[2]: in others, the scale or magnitude of the occurrences described is such that, had they really happened precisely as represented, they could hardly have been passed over by the compiler of Samuel or Kings; elsewhere, again, the description appears to be irreconcilable with that in the earlier narrative; while nearly always the speeches assigned to historical characters, and the motives attributed to them, are conceived largely from a point of view very different from that which dominates the earlier narrative, and agreeing closely with the compiler's. The peculiarities of the historical representation which prevails in the Chronicles are to be ascribed, no doubt, to the influences under which the author lived and wrote. The compiler lived in an age when the theocratic institutions, which had been placed on a new basis after the return from Babylon, had long been in full

[1] Reprinted, by permission, from "An Introduction to the Literature of the Old Testament" (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark, 1891).

[2] It is illegitimate to explain these as due to textual corruption; the numbers in the Chronicles are systematically higher than in other parts of the O. T.; and no reason exists for supposing the text of these books to have been specially subject to error in transmission. Besides, numbers written in full would not be readily corrupted: the supposition that *letters* were used for numerals in the sacred autographs is destitute of foundation.

operation, and when new religious interests and a new type of piety—of course with points of contact with the old, but, at the same time, advancing beyond it—had been developed, and asserted themselves strongly. The Chronicler reflects faithfully the spirit of his age. A new mode of viewing the past history of his nation began to prevail: pre-exilic Judah was pictured as already in possession of the institutions, and governed—at least in its greater and better men—by the ideas and principles, which were dominant at a later day; the empire of David and his successors was imagined on a scale of unsurpassed power and magnificence; the past, in a word, was *idealised*, and its history (where necessary) rewritten accordingly. Thus the institutions of the present, which, in fact, had been developed gradually, are represented as organised in their completeness by David: the ritual of the Priests' Code is duly observed; the Passovers of Hezekiah and Josiah (the former of which is not mentioned in the Book of Kings at all, the latter only briefly) are described with an abundance of ceremonial detail, suggested no doubt by occasions which the compiler had witnessed himself; David organises a vast military force, and amasses for the Temple enormous treasures; his successors have the command of huge armies, and are victorious against forces huger even than their own. In these and similar representations there is certainly much that cannot be strictly historical: but the Chronicler must not on this account be held guilty of a deliberate perversion of history; he and his contemporaries did not question that the past was actually as they pictured it, and the Chronicler simply gives expression to this persuasion. It is not necessary to deny—on the contrary, it is highly probable—that a traditional element lies at the basis of his representations; but this element has been developed by him, and presented in a literary form, with the aim of giving expression to the ideas which he had at heart, and of inculcating the lessons which he conceived the history to teach.

PART II.

THE DIVIDED MONARCHY.

1 Kings 12. 1.

2 Chronicles 10. 1.

The Revolt of Israel.

12 And **Rehoboam** went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him
2 king. And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it, (for he was yet in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of king Solomon, and
3 Jeroboam dwelt in Egypt, and they sent and called him;) that Jeroboam and all the congregation of Israel came, and spake
4 unto Rehoboam, saying, Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we
5 will serve thee. And he said unto them, Depart yet for three days, then come again to me.
6 And the people departed. And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer
7 to this people? And they spake unto him, saying, If thou wilt be a servant unto this people this day, and wilt serve them, and answer them, and speak good words to them, then they will
8 be thy servants for ever. But he forsook the counsel of the old men which they had given him, and took counsel with the young men that were grown up with

10 And **Rehoboam** went to Shechem: for all Israel were come to Shechem to make him
2 king. And it came to pass, when Jeroboam the son of Nebat heard of it, (for he was in Egypt, whither he had fled from the presence of king Solomon,) that Jeroboam returned out of
3 Egypt. And they sent and called him; and Jeroboam and all Israel came, and they spake to Reho-
4 boam, saying, Thy father made our yoke grievous: now therefore make thou the grievous service of thy father, and his heavy yoke which he put upon us, lighter, and we will serve thee.
5 And he said unto them, Come again unto me after three days.
6 And the people departed. And king Rehoboam took counsel with the old men, that had stood before Solomon his father while he yet lived, saying, What counsel give ye me to return answer to
7 this people? And they spake unto him, saying, If thou be kind to this people, and please them, and speak good words to them, then they will be thy
8 servants for ever. But he forsook the counsel of the old men which they had given him, and took counsel with the young men that were grown up with

9 him, that stood before him. And
he said unto them, What counsel
give ye, that we may return
answer to this people, who have
spoken to me, saying, Make the
yoke that thy father did put upon
10 us lighter? And the young men
that were grown up with him
spake unto him, saying, Thus
shalt thou say unto this people
that spake unto thee, saying,
Thy father made our yoke heavy,
but make thou it lighter unto us;
thus shalt thou speak unto them,
My little finger is thicker than
11 my father's loins. And now
whereas my father did lade you
with a heavy yoke, I will add to
your yoke: my father chastised
you with whips, but I will chas-
12 tise you with scorpions. So
Jeroboam and all the people
came to **Rehoboam** the third
day, as the king bade, saying,
Come to me again the third day.
13 And the king answered the
people roughly, and forsook the
counsel of the old men which
14 they had given him; and spake
to them after the counsel of the
young men, saying, My father
made your yoke heavy, but I
will add to your yoke: my father
chastised you with whips, but I
will chastise you with scorpions.
15 So the king hearkened not unto
the people; for it was a thing
brought about of the LORD, that
he might establish his word,
which the LORD spake by the
hand of Ahijah the Shilonite to
Jeroboam the son of Nebat.
16 And when all Israel saw that
the king hearkened not unto
them, the people answered the
king, saying, What portion have
we in David? neither have we
inheritance in the son of Jesse:
to your tents, O Israel: now see
to thine own house, David. So

9 him, that stood before him. And
he said unto them, What counsel
give ye, that we may return
answer to this people, who
have spoken to me, saying,
Make the yoke that thy father
10 did put upon us lighter? And
the young men that were grown
up with him spake unto him,
saying, Thus shalt thou say un-
to the people that spake unto
thee, saying, Thy father made
our yoke heavy, but make thou
it lighter unto us; thus shalt
thou say unto them, My little
finger is thicker than my father's
11 loins. And now whereas my
father did lade you with a heavy
yoke, I will add to your yoke:
my father chastised you with
whips, but I *will chastise you*
12 with scorpions. So Jeroboam
and all the people came to
Rehoboam the third day, as the
king bade, saying, Come to me
13 again the third day. And the
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14 counsel of the old men, and
spake to them after the counsel
of the young men, saying, My
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might establish his word, which
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the Shilonite to Jeroboam the
16 son of Nebat. And when all
Israel saw that the king hark-
ened not unto them, the people
answered the king, saying, What
portion have we in David? neither
have we inheritance in the son of
Jesse: every man to your tents,
O Israel: now see to thine own
house, David. So all Israel de-

Israel departed unto their tents.
17 But as for the children of Israel which dwelt in the cities of Judah, **Rehoboam** reigned over them.
18 Then king Rehoboam sent Adoram, who was over the levy; and all Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. And king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to flee to Jerusalem.
19 So Israel rebelled against the house of David, unto this day.

20 And it came to pass, when all Israel heard that **Jeroboam** was returned, that they sent and called him unto the congregation, and made him king over all Israel: there was none that followed the house of David, but the tribe of Judah only.

17 parted unto their tents. But as for the children of Israel that dwelt in the cities of Judah, **Rehoboam** reigned over them.
18 Then king Rehoboam sent Hadoram, who was over the levy; and the children of Israel stoned him with stones, that he died. And king Rehoboam made speed to get him up to his chariot, to
19 flee to Jerusalem. So Israel rebelled against the house of David, unto this day.

The Prophecy of Shemaiah.

21 And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled all the house of Judah, and the tribe of Benjamin, an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men, which were warriors, to fight against the house of Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam the son of Solomon.
22 But the word of God came unto Shemaiah the man of God,
23 saying, Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and unto all the house of Judah and Benjamin, and to the
24 [1]rest of the people, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren the children of Israel: return every man to his house; for this thing is of me. So they hearkened unto the word of the LORD, and returned and went their way, according to the word of the LORD.

11 And when Rehoboam was come to Jerusalem, he assembled the house of Judah and Benjamin, an hundred and fourscore thousand chosen men, which were warriors, to fight against Israel, to bring the kingdom again to Rehoboam.

2 But the word of the LORD came to Shemaiah the man of
3 God, saying, Speak unto Rehoboam the son of Solomon, king of Judah, and to all Israel in Judah and Benjamin, saying,
4 Thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren: return every man to his house; for this thing is of me. So they hearkened unto the words of the LORD, and returned from going against Jeroboam.

[1] See ver. 17.

The Calves set up at Dan and Beth-el.

25 Then **Jeroboam** built Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and
26 dwelt therein; and he went out from thence, and built Penuel. And
Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house
27 of David: if this people go up to offer sacrifices in the house of the
LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto
their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah; and they shall kill me,
28 and return to Rehoboam king of Judah. Whereupon the king took
counsel, and made two calves of gold; and he said unto them, [1] It is too
much for you to go up to Jerusalem; behold thy gods, O Israel, which
29 brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. And he set the one in
30 Beth-el, and the other put he in Dan. And this thing became a sin:
31 for the people went *to worship* before [2]the one, even unto Dan. And
he made houses of high places, and made priests from among all the
32 people, which were not of the sons of Levi. And Jeroboam ordained a
feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto
the feast that is in Judah, and he [3]went up unto the altar; so did he in
Beth-el, [4]sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed
33 in Beth-el the priests of the high places which he had made. And he
[3]went up unto the altar which he had made in Beth-el on the fifteenth
day in the eighth month, even in the month which he had devised [5]of
his own heart: and he ordained a feast for the children of Israel, and
[3]went up unto the altar, to burn incense.

The Man of God out of Judah.

13 And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of
the LORD unto Beth-el: and Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn
2 incense. And he cried against the altar by the word of the LORD, and
said, O altar, altar, thus saith the LORD: Behold, a child shall be born
unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he
sacrifice the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and
3 men's bones shall they burn upon thee. And he gave a sign the same
day, saying, This is the sign which the LORD hath spoken: Behold, the
altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out.
4 And it came to pass, when the king heard the saying of the man of
God, which he cried against the altar in Beth-el, that Jeroboam put
forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand,
which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not draw it
5 back again to him. The altar also was rent, and the ashes poured out
from the altar, according to the sign which the man of God had given
6 by the word of the LORD. And the king answered and said unto the
man of God, Intreat now the favour of the LORD thy God, and pray
for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God
intreated the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and

[1] Or, *Ye have gone up long enough*
[2] Or, *each of them*
[3] Or, *offered upon*
[4] Or, *to sacrifice*
[5] Another reading is, *apart*.

7 became as it was before. And the king said unto the man of God,
Come home with me, and refresh thyself, and I will give thee a reward.
8 And the man of God said unto the king, If thou wilt give me half
thine house, I will not go in with thee, neither will I eat bread nor
9 drink water in this place: for so was it charged me by the word of the
LORD, saying, Thou shalt eat no bread, nor drink water, neither return
10 by the way that thou camest. So he went another way, and returned
not by the way that he came to Beth-el.
11 Now there dwelt an old prophet in Beth-el; and [1]one of his sons
came and told him all the works that the man of God had done that
day in Beth-el: the words which he had spoken unto the king, them
12 also they told unto their father. And their father said unto them,
What way went he? [2]Now his sons had seen what way the man of God
13 went, which came from Judah. And he said unto his sons, Saddle me
14 the ass. So they saddled him the ass: and he rode thereon. And he
went after the man of God, and found him sitting under an [3]oak:
and he said unto him, Art thou the man of God that camest from
15 Judah? And he said, I am. Then he said unto him, Come home
16 with me, and eat bread. And he said, I may not return with thee, nor
go in with thee: neither will I eat bread nor drink water with thee in
17 this place: for it was said to me by the word of the LORD, Thou shalt
eat no bread nor drink water there, nor turn again to go by the way
18 that thou camest. And he said unto him, I also am a prophet as thou
art; and an angel spake unto me by the word of the LORD, saying,
Bring him back with thee into thine house, that he may eat bread and
19 drink water. *But* he lied unto him. So he went back with him, and
20 did eat bread in his house, and drank water. And it came to pass, as
they sat at the table, that the word of the LORD came unto the prophet
21 that brought him back: and he cried unto the man of God that came
from Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast
[4]been disobedient unto the mouth of the LORD, and hast not kept the
22 commandment which the LORD thy God commanded thee, but camest
back, and hast eaten bread and drunk water in the place of the which
he said to thee, Eat no bread, and drink no water; thy carcase shall
23 not come unto the sepulchre of thy fathers. And it came to pass, after
he had eaten bread, and after he had drunk, that he saddled for him
24 the ass, *to wit*, for the prophet whom he had brought back. And
when he was gone, a lion met him by the way, and slew him: and his
carcase was cast in the way, and the ass stood by it; the lion also
25 stood by the carcase. And, behold, men passed by, and saw the carcase
cast in the way, and the lion standing by the carcase: and they came
26 and told it in the city where the old prophet dwelt. And when the
prophet that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, It
is the man of God, who [4]was disobedient unto the mouth of the LORD:
therefore the LORD hath delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn
him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake

[1] Heb. *his son.*
[2] According to some ancient versions, *And his sons shewed him.*
[3] Or, *terebinth*
[4] Or, *rebelled against the word*

27 unto him. And he spake to his sons, saying, Saddle me the ass. And
28 they saddled it. And he went and found his carcase cast in the way,
and the ass and the lion standing by the carcase: the lion had not
29 eaten the carcase, nor torn the ass. And the prophet took up the
carcase of the man of God, and laid it upon the ass, and brought it
back: and he came to the city of the old prophet, to mourn, and to
30 bury him. And he laid his carcase in his own grave; and they
31 mourned over him, *saying*, Alas, my brother! And it came to pass,
after he had buried him, that he spake to his sons, saying, When I am
dead, then bury me in the sepulchre wherein the man of God is buried;
32 lay my bones beside his bones. For the saying which he cried by the
word of the LORD against the altar in Beth-el, and against all the houses
of the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, shall surely come
to pass.
33 After this thing **Jeroboam** returned not from his evil way, but made
again from among all the people priests of the high places: [1]whosoever
would, he consecrated him, that there might be priests of the high
34 places. And [2]this thing became sin unto the house of Jeroboam, even
to cut it off, and to destroy it from off the face of the earth.

The Prophecy of Ahijah of Shiloh.

14 At that time Abijah the son of Jeroboam fell sick. And Jeroboam
said to his wife, Arise, I pray thee, and disguise thyself, that thou be
not known to be the wife of Jeroboam: and get thee to Shiloh; behold,
there is Ahijah the prophet, which spake concerning me that I should
3 be king over this people. And take with thee ten loaves, and cracknels,
and a [3]cruse of honey, and go to him: he shall tell thee what shall
4 become of the child. And Jeroboam's wife did so, and arose, and went
to Shiloh, and came to the house of Ahijah. Now Ahijah could not
5 see; for his eyes were set by reason of his age. And the LORD said
unto Ahijah, Behold, the wife of Jeroboam cometh to inquire of thee
concerning her son; for he is sick: thus and thus shalt thou say unto her:
for it shall be, when she cometh in, that she shall feign herself to be
6 another woman. And it was so, when Ahijah heard the sound of her
feet, as she came in at the door, that he said, Come in, thou wife of
Jeroboam; why feignest thou thyself to be another? for I am sent to
7 thee with heavy tidings. Go, tell Jeroboam, Thus saith the LORD, the
God of Israel: Forasmuch as I exalted thee from among the people,
8 and made thee [4]prince over my people Israel, and rent the kingdom
away from the house of David, and gave it thee: and yet thou hast not
been as my servant David, who kept my commandments, and who
followed me with all his heart, to do that only which was right in mine
9 eyes; but hast done evil above all that were before thee, and hast gone
and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger,
10 and hast cast me behind thy back: therefore, behold, I will bring evil
upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam every man

[1] Or, *whomsoever he would*
[2] Or, *by this thing he became*
[3] Or, *bottle*
[4] Or, *leader*

child, him that is shut up and him that is left at large in Israel, and will
utterly sweep away the house of **Jeroboam**, as a man sweepeth away
11 dung, till it be all gone. Him that dieth of Jeroboam in the city shall
the dogs eat; and him that dieth in the field shall the fowls of the air
12 eat: for the LORD hath spoken it. Arise thou therefore, get thee to
thine house: *and* when thy feet enter into the city, the child shall
13 die. And all Israel shall mourn for him, and bury him; for he only of
Jeroboam shall come to the grave: because in him there is found some
good thing toward the LORD, the God of Israel, in the house of
14 Jeroboam. Moreover the LORD shall raise him up a king over Israel,
who shall cut off the house of Jeroboam that day: [1]but what? even
15 now. For the LORD shall smite Israel, as a reed is shaken in the
water; and he shall root up Israel out of this good land, which he gave
to their fathers, and shall scatter them beyond the River; because they
16 have made their Asherim, provoking the LORD to anger. And he shall
give Israel up because of the sins of Jeroboam, [2]which he hath sinned,
17 and wherewith he hath made Israel to sin. And Jeroboam's wife arose,
and departed, and came to Tirzah: *and* as she came to the threshold
18 of the house, the child died. And all Israel buried him, and mourned
for him; according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by the
19 hand of his servant Ahijah the prophet. And the rest of the acts of
Jeroboam, how he warred, and how he reigned, behold, they are written
20 in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel. And the days
which Jeroboam reigned were two and twenty years: and he slept with
his fathers, and Nadab his son reigned in his stead.

2 Chronicles 11. 5.

Domestic Policy of Rehoboam.

5 And **Rehoboam** dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for defence
6,7 in Judah. He built even Beth-lehem, and Etam, and Tekoa, and
8 Beth-zur, and Soco, and Adullam, and Gath, and Mareshah, and
9,10 Ziph, and Adoraim, and Lachish, and Azekah, and Zorah, and
Aijalon, and Hebron, which are in Judah and in Benjamin, fenced
11 cities. And he fortified the strong holds, and put captains in them,
12 and store of victual, and oil and wine. And in every several city *he
put* shields and spears, and made them exceeding strong. And
13 Judah and Benjamin belonged to him. And the priests and the
Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their border.
14 For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to
Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons cast them off,
that they should not execute the priest's office unto the LORD:
15 and he appointed him priests for the high places, and for the [3]he-
16 goats, and for the calves which he had made. And after them, out
of all the tribes of Israel, such as set their hearts to seek the LORD,

[1] Or, *and what even now?*
[2] Or, *who did sin, and who made &c.*
[3] Or, *satyrs* See Lev. xvii. 7.

21 [1]And **Rehoboam** the son of Solomon reigned in Judah. Rehoboam was forty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned seventeen years in Jerusalem, the city which the LORD had chosen out of all the

[1] See 2 Chr. xii. 13.

the God of Israel, came to Jerusalem to sacrifice unto the LORD,
17 the God of their fathers. So they strengthened the kingdom of Judah, and made **Rehoboam** the son of Solomon strong, three years: for they walked three years in the way of David and Solomon.
18 And Rehoboam took him a wife, Mahalath the daughter of Jerimoth the son of David, [1] *and of* Abihail the daughter of Eliab the son
19 of Jesse; and she bare him sons; Jeush, and Shemariah, and
20 Zaham. And after her he took [2]Maacah the daughter of Absalom; and she bare him Abijah, and Attai, and Ziza, and She-
21 lomith. And Rehoboam loved Maacah the daughter of Absalom above all his wives and his concubines: (for he took eighteen wives, and threescore concubines, and begat twenty and eight sons
22 and threescore daughters.) And Rehoboam appointed Abijah the son of Maacah to be chief, *even* the prince among his brethren: for *he was minded* to make him
23 king. And he dealt wisely, and dispersed of all his sons throughout all the lands of Judah and Benjamin, unto every fenced city: and he gave them victual in abundance. And he [3]sought *for them* many wives.

12 And it came to pass, when the kingdom of Rehoboam was established, and he was strong, that he forsook the law of the LORD, and all Israel with him.

[1] Or, and *Abihail*

[2] In ch. xiii. 2, *Micaiah the daughter of Uriel.*

[3] Or, *sought a multitude of wives*

tribes of Israel, to put his name
there: and his mother's name
was Naamah the Ammonitess.
22 And Judah did that which was
evil in the sight of the LORD; and
they provoked him to jealousy
with their sins which they com-
mitted, above all that their fathers
23 had done. For they also built
them high places, and [1]pillars,
and Asherim, on every high hill,
24 and under every green tree; and
there were also [2]sodomites in the
land: they did according to all
the abominations of the nations
which the LORD drave out before
the children of Israel.

War with Shishak, king of Egypt.

25 And it came to pass in the fifth
year of king **Rehoboam**, that
Shishak king of Egypt came up

2 And it came to pass in the fifth
year of king **Rehoboam**, that
Shishak king of Egypt came up
against Jerusalem, because they
had trespassed against the LORD,
3 with twelve hundred chariots, and
threescore thousand horsemen:
and the people were without
number that came with him out
of Egypt; the Lubim, the Suk-
4 kiim, and the Ethiopians. And
he took the fenced cities which
pertained to Judah, and came
5 unto Jerusalem. Now Shemaiah
the prophet came to Rehoboam,
and to the princes of Judah, that
were gathered together to Jeru-
salem because of Shishak, and
said unto them, Thus saith the
LORD, Ye have forsaken me,
therefore have I also left you
6 in the hand of Shishak. Then
the princes of Israel and the
king humbled themselves; and
they said, The LORD is righteous.
7 And when the LORD saw that they
humbled themselves, the word of
the LORD came to Shemaiah,
saying, They have humbled them-
selves; I will not destroy them:

[1] Or, *obelisks*
[2] See Deut. xxiii. 17.

26 against Jerusalem: and he took
away the treasures of the house
of the LORD, and the treasures of
the king's house; he even took
away all: and he took away all
the shields of gold which Solomon
27 had made. And king **Rehoboam**
made in their stead shields of
brass, and committed them to
the hands of the captains of the
[1]guard, which kept the door of
28 the king's house. And it was so,
that as oft as the king went into
the house of the LORD, the guard
bare them, and brought them
back into the guard chamber.

29 Now the rest of the acts of Re-
hoboam, and all that he did,
are they not written in the book
of the chronicles of the kings of
30 Judah? And there was war be-

[1] Heb. *runners.*

but I will grant them [1]some
deliverance, and my wrath shall
not be poured out upon Jeru-
salem by the hand of Shishak.
8 Nevertheless they shall be his
servants; that they may know
my service, and the service of
the kingdoms of the countries.
9 So Shishak king of Egypt came
up against Jerusalem, and took
away the treasures of the house
of the LORD, and the treasures
of the king's house; he took
all away: he took away also the
shields of gold which Solomon
10 had made. And king **Rehoboam**
made in their stead shields of
brass, and committed them to
the hands of the captains of the
[2]guard, that kept the door of the
11 king's house. And it was so, that
as oft as the king entered into the
house of the LORD, the guard
came and bare them, and brought
them back into the guard cham-
12 ber. And when he humbled
himself, the wrath of the LORD
turned from him, that he would
not destroy him altogether: and
moreover in Judah [3]there were
13 good things *found.* So king
Rehoboam strengthened himself
in Jerusalem, and reigned: for
Rehoboam was forty and one
years old when he began to reign,
and he reigned seventeen years
in Jerusalem, the city which the
LORD had chosen out of all the
tribes of Israel, to put his name
there: and his mother's name
was Naamah the Ammonitess.
14 And he did that which was evil,
because he set not his heart to
15 seek the LORD. Now the acts of
Rehoboam, first and last, are
they not written in the [4]histories

[1] Or, *deliverance within a little while* Or, *a few that shall escape*
[2] Heb. *runners.*
[3] See ch. xix. 3. [4] Heb. *words.*

tween **Rehoboam** and Jeroboam
31 continually. And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and his mother's name was Naamah the Ammonitess. And Abijam his son reigned in his stead.

of Shemaiah the prophet and of Iddo the seer, [1]after the manner of genealogies? And there were wars between **Rehoboam** and
16 Jeroboam continually. And Rehoboam slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David: and Abijah his son reigned in his stead.

War between Jeroboam and Abijah.

15 Now in the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam the son of Nebat began **Abijam** to reign over
2 Judah. Three years reigned he in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Maacah the daughter
3 of [1]Abishalom. And he walked in all the sins of his father, which he had done before him: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as the heart of
4 David his father. Nevertheless for David's sake did the LORD his God give him a lamp in Jerusalem, to set up his son after him, and to establish Jerusalem:
5 because David did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and turned not aside from any thing that he commanded him all the days of his life, save only in the matter of Uriah the
6 Hittite. Now there was war between [2]Rehoboam and Jeroboam all the days of his life.
7 And the rest of the acts of Abijam, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? And there was war between Abijam and Jeroboam.

13 In the eighteenth year of king Jeroboam began **Abijah** to reign
2 over Judah. Three years reigned he in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was [2]Micaiah the daughter of Uriel of Gibeah. And there was war between Abijah and
3 Jeroboam. And Abijah joined battle with an army of valiant men of war, even four hundred thousand chosen men: and Jeroboam set the battle in array against him with eight hundred thousand chosen men, who were
4 mighty men of valour. And Abijah stood up upon mount Zemaraim, which is in the hill country of Ephraim, and said, Hear me, O Jeroboam and all
5 Israel; ought ye not to know that the LORD, the God of Israel, gave the kingdom over Israel to David for ever, even to him and to his sons by a covenant of salt?
6 Yet Jeroboam the son of Nebat, the servant of Solomon the son of David, rose up, and rebelled
7 against his lord. And there were gathered unto him vain men, sons of [3]Belial, which strengthened themselves against Rehoboam the son of Solomon, when Rehoboam was young and tender-hearted, and could not withstand

[1] In 2 Chr. xi. 20, 21, *Absalom*.
[2] According to some authorities, *Abijam*.

[1] Or, *in reckoning the genealogies*
[2] See ch. xi. 20.
[3] That is, *worthlessness*.

8 them. And now ye think to withstand the kingdom of the LORD
in the hand of the sons of David; and ye be a great multitude, and
there are with you the golden calves which **Jeroboam** made you for
9 gods. Have ye not driven out the priests of the LORD, the sons of
Aaron, and the Levites, and have made you priests after the manner
of the peoples of *other* lands? so that whosoever cometh to consecrate
himself with a young bullock and seven rams, the same may be a
10 priest of *them that are* no gods. But as for us, the LORD is our God,
and we have not forsaken him; and *we have* priests ministering unto
11 the LORD, the sons of Aaron, and the Levites in their work: and
they burn unto the LORD every morning and every evening burnt
offerings and sweet incense: the shewbread also *set they* in order upon
the pure table; and the candlestick of gold with the lamps thereof,
to burn every evening: for we keep the charge of the LORD our God;
12 but ye have forsaken him. And, behold, God is with us at our head,
and his priests with the trumpets of alarm to sound an alarm against
you. O children of Israel, fight ye not against the LORD, the God of
13 your fathers; for ye shall not prosper. But Jeroboam caused an
ambushment to come about behind them: so they were before Judah,
14 and the ambushment was behind them. And when Judah looked
back, behold, the battle was before and behind them: and they cried
15 unto the LORD, and the priests sounded with the trumpets. Then the
men of Judah gave a shout: and as the men of Judah shouted, it
came to pass, that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah
16 and Judah. And the children of Israel fled before Judah: and God
17 delivered them into their hand. And **Abijah** and his people slew
them with a great slaughter: so there fell down slain of Israel five
18 hundred thousand chosen men. Thus the children of Israel were
brought under at that time, and the children of Judah prevailed,
19 because they relied upon the LORD, the God of their fathers. And
Abijah pursued after Jeroboam, and took cities from him, Beth-el with
the towns thereof, and Jeshanah with the towns thereof, and [1]Ephron
20 with the towns thereof. Neither did Jeroboam recover strength again
21 in the days of Abijah: and the LORD smote him, and he died. But
Abijah waxed mighty, and took unto himself fourteen wives, and begat
22 twenty and two sons, and sixteen daughters. And the rest of the acts
of Abijah, and his ways, and his sayings, are written in the commentary
of the prophet Iddo.

[1] Another reading is, *Ephrain*.

8 And Abijam slept with his fathers; and they buried him in the city of David: and **Asa** his son reigned in his stead.

14 So Abijah slept with his fathers, and they buried him in the city of David, and **Asa** his son reigned in his stead: in his days the land was quiet ten years.

Asa's Reforms.

9 And in the twentieth year of Jeroboam king of Israel began
10 Asa to reign over Judah. And forty and one years reigned he in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Maacah the daughter
11 of Abishalom. And Asa did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, as did David his
12 father. And he put away the sodomites out of the land, and removed all the idols that his fathers had made.

2 [1]And Asa did that which was good and right in the eyes of
3 the LORD his God: for he took away the strange altars, and the high places, and brake down the [2]pillars, and hewed down
4 the [3]Asherim; and commanded Judah to seek the LORD, the God of their fathers, and to do the law and the commandment.
5 Also he took away out of all the cities of Judah the high places and the sun-images: and the kingdom
6 was quiet before him. And he built fenced cities in Judah: for the land was quiet, and he had no war in those years; because the
7 LORD had given him rest. For he said unto Judah, Let us build these cities, and make about them walls, and towers, gates, and bars; the land is yet before us, because we have sought the LORD our God; we have sought him, and he hath given us rest on every side. So they built and prospered.

Asa's war with Zerah the Ethiopian.

8 And Asa had an army that bare bucklers and spears, out of Judah three hundred thousand; and out of Benjamin, that bare shields and drew bows, two hundred and fourscore thousand: all these were mighty men of valour.

[1] [Ch. xiv. 1 in Heb.]
[2] Or, *obelisks*
[3] See Ex. xxxiv. 13.

9 And there came out against them Zerah the Ethiopian with an
army of a thousand thousand, and three hundred chariots; and he
10 came unto Mareshah. Then **Asa** went out to meet him, and they
11 set the battle in array in the valley of Zephathah at Mareshah. And
Asa cried unto the LORD his God, and said, LORD, [1]there is none
[2]beside thee to help, between the mighty and him that hath no
strength: help us, O LORD our God; for we rely on thee, and in thy
name are we come against this multitude. O LORD, thou art our God;
12 let not man prevail against thee. So the LORD smote the Ethiopians
13 before Asa, and before Judah; and the Ethiopians fled. And Asa and
the people that were with him pursued them unto Gerar: and there fell
of the Ethiopians [3]so many that they could not recover themselves; for
they were [4]destroyed before the LORD, and before his host; and they
14 carried away very much booty. And they smote all the cities round
about Gerar; for [5]the fear of the LORD came upon them: and they
15 spoiled all the cities; for there was much spoil in them. They smote
also the tents of cattle, and carried away sheep in abundance and
camels, and returned to Jerusalem.

The Prophecy of Azariah, son of Oded.

15 And the spirit of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded: and he
went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all
Judah and Benjamin: the LORD is with you, while ye be with him; and
if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will
3 forsake you. Now for [6]long seasons Israel hath been without the true
4 God, and without a teaching priest, and without law: but when in their
distress they turned unto the LORD, the God of Israel, and sought him,
5 he was found of them. And in those times there was no peace to him
that went out, nor to him that came in, but great vexations were upon
6 all the inhabitants of the lands. And they were broken in pieces,
nation against nation, and city against city: for God did vex them with
7 all adversity. But be ye strong, and let not your hands be slack: for
8 your work shall be rewarded. And when Asa heard these words, [7]and
the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the
abominations out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of
the cities which he had taken from the hill country of Ephraim; and
he renewed the altar of the LORD, that was before the porch of the
9 LORD. And he gathered all Judah and Benjamin, and them that
sojourned with them out of Ephraim and Manasseh, and out of
Simeon: for they fell to him out of Israel in abundance, when they
10 saw that the LORD his God was with him. So they gathered
themselves together at Jerusalem in the third month, in the fifteenth
11 year of the reign of Asa. And they sacrificed unto the LORD in that
day, of the spoil which they had brought, seven hundred oxen and seven
12 thousand sheep. And they entered into the covenant to seek the

[1] Or, *there is no difference with thee to help, whether the mighty or him &c.*
[2] Or, *like*
[3] Or, *so that none remained alive*
[4] Heb. *broken.*
[5] Or, *a terror from the* LORD
[6] Or, *a long season*
[7] Or, *even*

LORD, the God of their fathers, with all their heart and with all
13 their soul; and that whosoever would not seek the LORD, the God of Israel, should be put to death, whether small or great, whether
14 man or woman. And they sware unto the LORD with a loud voice, and with shouting, and with trum-
15 pets, and with cornets. And all Judah rejoiced at the oath: for they had sworn with all their heart, and sought him with their whole desire; and he was found of them: and the LORD gave them rest round about.

13 And also Maacah his mother he removed from being [1]queen, because she had made an abominable image [2]for an Asherah; and **Asa** cut down her image, and burnt it at the brook Kidron.

14 But the high places were not taken away: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect with
15 the LORD all his days. And he brought into the house of the LORD the things that his father had dedicated, and the things that himself had dedicated, silver,
16 and gold, and vessels. And there was war between Asa and Baasha king of Israel all their days.

16 And also Maacah the mother of **Asa** the king, he removed her from being [1]queen, because she had made an abominable image [2]for an Asherah; and Asa cut down her image, and made dust of it, and burnt it
17 at the brook Kidron. But the high places were not taken away out of Israel: nevertheless the heart of Asa was perfect all his
18 days. And he brought into the house of God the things that his father had dedicated, and that he himself had dedicated, silver,
19 and gold, and vessels. And there was no more war unto the five and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa.

Asa's alliance with Ben-hadad against Baasha.

17 And **Baasha** king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not suffer any to go out or come in to Asa
18 king of Judah. Then Asa took all the silver and the gold that were left in the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house,

16 In the six and thirtieth year of the reign of Asa, **Baasha** king of Israel went up against Judah, and built Ramah, that he might not suffer any to go out or come in to Asa king of Judah.
2 Then Asa brought out silver and gold out of the treasures of the house of the LORD and of the

[1] Or, *queen mother*
[2] Or, *for Asherah*

[1] Or, *queen mother*
[2] Or, *for Asherah*

and delivered them into the
hand of his servants: and king
Asa sent them to Ben-hadad, the
son of Tabrimmon, the son of
Hezion, king of Syria, that dwelt
19 at Damascus, saying, [1] *There is*
a league between me and thee,
between my father and thy father:
behold, I have sent unto thee a
present of silver and gold; go,
break thy league with **Baasha**
king of Israel, that he may depart
20 from me. And Ben-hadad hark-
ened unto king Asa, and sent
the captains of his armies against
the cities of Israel, and smote
Ijon, and Dan, and Abel-beth-
maacah, and all Chinneroth,
with all the land of Naphtali.
21 And it came to pass, when
Baasha heard thereof, that he
left off building of Ramah, and
22 dwelt in Tirzah. Then king
Asa made a proclamation unto
all Judah; none was exempted:
and they carried away the stones
of Ramah, and the timber thereof,
wherewith Baasha had builded;
and king Asa built therewith
Geba of Benjamin, and Mizpah.

[1] Or, Let there be

king's house, and sent to Ben-
hadad king of Syria, that dwelt
3 at [1] Damascus, saying, [2] *There is*
a league between me and thee,
as *there was* between my father
and thy father: behold, I have
sent thee silver and gold; go,
break thy league with **Baasha**
king of Israel, that he may
4 depart from me. And Ben-
hadad hearkened unto king **Asa**,
and sent the captains of his
armies against the cities of Is-
rael; and they smote Ijon, and
Dan, and Abel-maim, and all
the [3] store cities of Naphtali.
5 And it came to pass, when
Baasha heard thereof, that he
left off building of Ramah, and
6 let his work cease. Then Asa
the king took all Judah; and
they carried away the stones of
Ramah, and the timber thereof,
wherewith Baasha had builded;
and he built therewith Geba and
Mizpah.

The Prophecy of Hanani.

7 And at that time Hanani the
seer came to Asa king of Judah,
and said unto him, Because thou
hast relied on the king of Syria,
and hast not relied on the LORD
thy God, therefore is the host of
the king of Syria escaped out
8 of thine hand. Were not the
Ethiopians and the Lubim a
huge host, with chariots and
horsemen exceeding many? yet,
because thou didst rely on the
LORD, he delivered them into

[1] Heb. *Darmesek.*
[2] Or, Let there be
[3] Heb. *storehouses of the cities.*

23 Now the rest of all the acts of **Asa**, and all his might, and all that he did, and the cities which he built, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah? But in the time of his old age he 24 was diseased in his feet. And Asa slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David his father: and **Jehoshaphat** his son reigned in his stead.

9 thine hand. For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly; for from hence- 10 forth thou shalt have wars. Then **Asa** was wroth with the seer, and put him in the [1]prison house; for he was in a rage with him because of this thing. And Asa oppressed some of the people 11 the same time. And, behold, the acts of Asa, first and last, lo, they are written in the book of the kings of Judah and Is- 12 rael. And in the thirty and ninth year of his reign Asa was diseased in his feet; his disease was exceeding great: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians. 13 And Asa slept with his fathers, and died in the one and fortieth 14 year of his reign. And they buried him in his own sepulchres, which he had hewn out for himself in the city of David, and laid him in the bed which was filled with sweet odours and divers kinds *of spices* prepared by the apothecaries' art: and they made a very great burning for him.

1 Kings 15. 25.

The Prophecy of Jehu, son of Hanani, against Baasha.

25 And **Nadab** the son of Jeroboam began to reign over Israel in the second year of Asa king of Judah, and he reigned over Israel two years. 26 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the way of his father, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin. 27 And **Baasha** the son of Ahijah, of the house of Issachar, conspired against him; and Baasha smote him at Gibbethon, which belonged to the Philistines; for Nadab and all Israel were laying siege to Gibbethon. 28 Even in the third year of Asa king of Judah did Baasha slay him, and 29 reigned in his stead. And it came to pass that, as soon as he was king,

[1] Heb. *house of the stocks.*

he smote all the house of Jeroboam; he left not to Jeroboam any that
breathed, until he had destroyed him; according unto the saying of
the LORD, which he spake by the hand of his servant Ahijah the
30 Shilonite: for the sins of Jeroboam which he sinned, and wherewith he
made Israel to sin; because of his provocation wherewith he provoked
31 the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger. Now the rest of the acts of
Nadab, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the
32 chronicles of the kings of Israel? And there was war between **Asa** and
Baasha king of Israel all their days.
33 In the third year of Asa king of Judah began Baasha the son of
Ahijah to reign over all Israel in Tirzah, *and reigned* twenty and four
34 years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, and
walked in the way of Jeroboam, and in his sin wherewith he made
16 Israel to sin. And the word of the LORD came to Jehu the son of
2 Hanani against Baasha, saying, Forasmuch as I exalted thee out of the
dust, and made thee [1]prince over my people Israel; and thou hast
walked in the way of Jeroboam, and hast made my people Israel to sin,
3 to provoke me to anger with their sins; behold, I will utterly sweep
away Baasha and his house; and I will make thy house like the house
4 of Jeroboam the son of Nebat. Him that dieth of Baasha in the city
shall the dogs eat; and him that dieth of his in the field shall the
5 fowls of the air eat. Now the rest of the acts of Baasha, and what he
did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles
6 of the kings of Israel? And Baasha slept with his fathers, and was
7 buried in Tirzah; and **Elah** his son reigned in his stead. And
moreover by the hand of the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani came the
word of the LORD against Baasha, and against his house, both because
of all the evil that he did in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to
anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam,
and because he smote [2]him.

Murder of Elah, and Civil War of Omri against Tibni.

8 In the twenty and sixth year of Asa king of Judah began Elah the
son of Baasha to reign over Israel in Tirzah, *and reigned* two years.
9 And his servant **Zimri**, captain of half his chariots, conspired against
him: now he was in Tirzah, drinking himself drunk in the house of
10 Arza, which was over the household in Tirzah: and Zimri went in
and smote him, and killed him, in the twenty and seventh year of Asa
11 king of Judah, and reigned in his stead. And it came to pass, when he
began to reign, as soon as he sat on his throne, that he smote all the
house of Baasha: he left him not a single man child, neither of his
12 kinsfolks, nor of his friends. Thus did Zimri destroy all the house of
Baasha, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake against
13 Baasha by Jehu the prophet, for all the sins of Baasha, and the sins of
Elah his son, which they sinned, and wherewith they made Israel to
sin, to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger with their
14 vanities. Now the rest of the acts of Elah, and all that he did, are
they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

[1] Or, *leader* [2] Or, *it*

15 In the twenty and seventh year of **Asa** king of Judah did **Zimri** reign
seven days in Tirzah. Now the people were encamped against Gibbe-
16 thon, which belonged to the Philistines. And the people that were
encamped heard say, Zimri hath conspired, and hath also smitten the
king: wherefore all Israel made **Omri**, the captain of the host, king
17 over Israel that day in the camp. And Omri went up from Gibbethon,
18 and all Israel with him, and they besieged Tirzah. And it came to
pass, when Zimri saw that the city was taken, that he went into the
[1]castle of the king's house, and burnt the king's house over him with
19 fire, and died, for his sins which he sinned in doing that which was evil
in the sight of the LORD, in walking in the way of Jeroboam, and in
20 his sin which he did, to make Israel to sin. Now the rest of the acts
of Zimri, and his treason that he wrought, are they not written in the
book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
21 Then were the people of Israel divided into two parts: half of the
people followed **Tibni** the son of Ginath, to make him king; and half
22 followed Omri. But the people that followed Omri prevailed against
the people that followed Tibni the son of Ginath: so Tibni died, and
23 Omri reigned. In the thirty and first year of Asa king of Judah began
Omri to reign over Israel, *and reigned* twelve years: six years reigned
24 he in Tirzah. And he bought the hill [2]Samaria of Shemer for two
talents of silver; and he [3]built on the hill, and called the name of the
city which he built, after the name of Shemer, the owner of the hill,
25 [2]Samaria. And Omri did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD,
26 and dealt wickedly above all that were before him. For he walked in
all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sins wherewith he
made Israel to sin, to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger
27 with their vanities. Now the rest of the acts of Omri which he did,
and his might that he shewed, are they not written in the book of the
28 chronicles of the kings of Israel? So Omri slept with his fathers, and
was buried in Samaria: and **Ahab** his son reigned in his stead.

Ahab builds a House for the Tyrian Baal in Samaria.

29 And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab
the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri
30 reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years. And Ahab the
son of Omri did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD above all
31 that were before him. And it came to pass, as if it had been a light
thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he
took to wife [4]Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians,
32 and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And he reared up an
altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.
33 And Ahab made [5]the Asherah; and Ahab did yet more to provoke the
LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than all the kings of Israel that were
34 before him. [6]In his days did Hiel the Beth-elite build Jericho: he
laid the foundation thereof with the loss of Abiram his firstborn, and

[1] Or, *palace* [2] Heb. *Shomeron.* [3] Or, *fortified the hill*
[4] Heb. *Izebel.* [5] See 2 Kings xiii. 6. [6] See Josh. vi. 26.

set up the gates thereof with the loss of his youngest son Segub;
according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by the hand of
Joshua the son of Nun.

Elijah and the Three Years' Drought.

17 And Elijah the Tishbite, who was [1]of the sojourners of Gilead, said
unto Ahab, As the LORD, the God of Israel, liveth, before whom I
stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my
2,3 word. And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Get thee
hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith,
4 that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the
5 brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there. So he
went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and
6 dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. And the ravens
brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in
7 the evening; and he drank of the brook. And it came to pass, after
a while, that the brook dried up, because there was no rain in the
land.

Elijah at Zarephath.

8,9 And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to
Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have
10 commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. So he arose and
went to Zarephath; and when he came to the gate of the city, behold,
a widow woman was there gathering sticks: and he called to her, and
said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.
11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I
12 pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand. And she said, As the LORD
thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in the barrel,
and a little oil in the cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks,
that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it,
13 and die. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast
said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it forth unto
14 me, and afterward make for thee and for thy son. For thus saith the
LORD, the God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither
shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon
15 the earth. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah:
16 and she, and he, and her house, did eat *many* days. The barrel of
meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word
17 of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah. And it came to pass after
these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell
sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in
18 him. And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou
man of God? [2]thou art come unto me to bring my sin to remembrance,
19 and to slay my son! And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he
took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into the chamber,

[1] According to the Sept., *of Tishbeh of Gilead.* [2] Or, *art thou &c.*

20 where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed. And he cried unto
the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon
21 the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son? And he stretched
himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said,
O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.
22 And the LORD hearkened unto the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the
23 child came into him again, and he revived. And Elijah took the child,
and brought him down out of the chamber into the house, and delivered
24 him unto his mother: and Elijah said, See, thy son liveth. And the
woman said to Elijah, Now I know that thou art a man of God, and
that the word of the LORD in thy mouth is truth.

Elijah on Carmel. Slaughter of the Prophets of Baal.

18 And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD
came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto **Ahab**;
2 and I will send rain upon the earth. And Elijah went to shew himself
3 unto Ahab. And the famine was sore in Samaria. And Ahab called
Obadiah, which was over the household. (Now Obadiah feared the
4 LORD greatly: for it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the
LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty
5 in a cave, and fed them with bread and water.) And Ahab said unto
Obadiah, Go through the land, unto all the fountains of water, and
unto all the brooks: peradventure we may find grass and save the
6 horses and mules alive, [1]that we lose not all the beasts. So they
divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one
7 way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself. And as
Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him,
8 and fell on his face, and said, Is it thou, my lord Elijah? And he
9 answered him, It is I: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah *is here*. And
he said, Wherein have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant
10 into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? As the LORD thy God liveth, there
is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee:
and when they said, He is not here, he took an oath of the kingdom
11 and nation, that they found thee not. And now thou sayest, Go, tell
12 thy lord, Behold, Elijah *is here*. And it shall come to pass, as soon as
I am gone from thee, that the spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither
I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee,
13 he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth. Was
it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the
LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a
14 cave, and fed them with bread and water? And now thou sayest, Go,
15 tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah *is here*: and he shall slay me. And Elijah
said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely
16 shew myself unto him to-day. So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and
17 told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah. And it came to pass, when
Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Is it thou, thou troubler of
18 Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and

[1] Or, *and lose none of*

thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the
19 LORD, and thou hast followed the Baalim. Now therefore send, and
gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal
four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the Asherah four hundred,
20 which eat at Jezebel's table. So **Ahab** sent unto all the children of
21 Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel. And
Elijah came near unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye
between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal,
22 then follow him. And the people answered him not a word. Then
said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, am left a prophet of the
23 LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men. Let them
therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for
themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, and put no fire
under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on the wood, and
24 put no fire under. And call ye on the name of your god, and I will call
on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him
be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.
25 And Elijah said unto the prophets of Baal, Choose you one bullock for
yourselves, and dress it first; for ye are many; and call on the name of
26 your god, but put no fire under. And they took the bullock which was
given them, and they dressed it, and called on the name of Baal from
morning even until noon, saying, O Baal, [1]hear us. But there was no
voice, nor any that answered. And they [2]leaped about the altar which
27 was made. And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them,
and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is musing, or he is gone
aside, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be
28 awaked. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner
29 with [3]knives and lances, till the blood gushed out upon them. And it
was so, when midday was past, that they prophesied until the time of
the offering of the *evening* oblation; but there was neither voice, nor
30 any to answer, nor any [4]that regarded. And Elijah said unto all the
people, Come near unto me; and all the people came near unto him.
31 And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was thrown down. And
Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the
sons of Jacob, unto whom the word of the LORD came, saying, Israel
32 shall be thy name. And with the stones he built an altar in the name
of the LORD; and he made a trench about the altar, as great as would
33 contain [5]two measures of seed. And he put the wood in order, and cut
the bullock in pieces, and laid it on the wood. And he said, Fill four
barrels with water, and pour it on the burnt offering, and on the wood.
34 And he said, Do it the second time; and they did it the second time.
And he said, Do it the third time; and they did it the third time.
35 And the water ran round about the altar; and he filled the trench also
36 with water. And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the *evening*
oblation, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, O LORD, the
God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that
thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I have done

[1] Or, *answer* [2] Or, *limped* [3] Or, *swords*
[4] Heb. *attention.* [5] Or, *a two-seah measure*

37 all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this
people may know that thou, LORD, art God, [1]and *that* thou hast turned
38 their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed
the burnt offering, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and
39 licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people
saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is God;
40 the LORD, he is God. And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets
of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah
41 brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there. And
Elijah said unto **Ahab**, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is the
42 sound of abundance of rain. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink.
And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he bowed himself down
43 upon the earth, and put his face between his knees. And he said to
his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and
looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times.
44 And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there
ariseth a cloud out of the sea, as small as a man's hand. And he said,
Go up, say unto Ahab, [2]Make ready *thy chariot*, and get thee down,
45 that the rain stop thee not. And it came to pass in a little while, that
the heaven grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain.
46 And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel. And the hand of the LORD was
on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the
entrance of Jezreel.

Elijah flees to Horeb. Call of Elisha.

19 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he
2 had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a
messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more
also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to-morrow
3 about this time. [3]And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his
life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his
4 servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness,
and came and sat down under a [4]juniper tree: and he requested for
himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take
5 away my life; for I am not better than my fathers. And he lay down
and slept under a juniper tree; and, behold, an angel touched him, and
6 said unto him, Arise and eat. And he looked, and, behold, there was
at his head a cake baken on the [5]coals, and a cruse of water. And he
7 did eat and drink, and laid him down again. And the angel of the
LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise
8 and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. And he arose, and
did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and
9 forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God. And he came thither unto
a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD came to

[1] Or, *for thou didst turn their heart backward*
[2] Or, *Yoke*
[3] According to some ancient authorities, *And he was afraid, and arose.*
[4] Or, *broom*
[5] Or, *hot stones*

10 him, and he said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he
said, I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the
children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars,
and slain thy prophets with the sword: and I, even I only, am left;
11 and they seek my life, to take it away. And he said, Go forth, and
stand upon the mount before the LORD. And, behold, the LORD passed
by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces
the rocks before the LORD; but the LORD was not in the wind: and
after the wind an earthquake; but the LORD was not in the earthquake:
12 and after the earthquake a fire; but the LORD was not in the fire: and
13 after the fire [1]a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it,
that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the
entering in of the cave. And, behold, there came a voice unto him,
14 and said, What doest thou here, Elijah? And he said, I have been
very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the children of Israel
have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy
prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek
15 my life, to take it away. And the LORD said unto him, Go, return on
thy way [2]to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, thou
16 shalt anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: and Jehu the son of Nimshi
shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat
17 of Abel-meholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it
shall come to pass, that him that escapeth from the sword of Hazael
shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall
18 Elisha slay. Yet will I leave *me* seven thousand in Israel, all the knees
which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not
19 kissed him. So he departed thence, and found Elisha the son of
Shaphat, who was plowing, with twelve yoke *of oxen* before him, and
he with the twelfth: and Elijah passed over unto him, and cast his
20 mantle upon him. And he left the oxen, and ran after Elijah, and said,
Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother, and then I will
follow thee. And he said unto him, Go back again; for what have I
21 done to thee? And he returned from following him, and took the yoke
of oxen, and slew them, and [3]boiled their flesh with the instruments of
the oxen, and gave unto the people, and they did eat. Then he arose,
and went after Elijah, and ministered unto him.

War of Ahab with Ben-hadad, King of Syria.

20 And Ben-hadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and
there were thirty and two kings with him, and horses and chariots: and
2 he went up and besieged Samaria, and fought against it. And he sent
messengers to **Ahab** king of Israel, into the city, and said unto him,
3 Thus saith Ben-hadad, Thy silver and thy gold is mine; thy wives also
4 and thy children, even the goodliest, are mine. And the king of Israel
answered and said, It is according to thy saying, my lord, O king; I am
5 thine, and all that I have. And the messengers came again, and said,
Thus speaketh Ben-hadad, saying, I sent indeed unto thee, saying,

[1] Heb. *a sound of gentle stillness.* [2] Or, *by the wilderness to* [3] Or, *roasted*

Thou shalt deliver me thy silver, and thy gold, and thy wives, and thy
6 children; but I will send my servants unto thee to-morrow about this
time, and they shall search thine house, and the houses of thy servants;
and it shall be, that [1]whatsoever is pleasant in thine eyes, they shall put
7 it in their hand, and take it away. Then the king of Israel called all
the elders of the land, and said, Mark, I pray you, and see how this
man seeketh mischief: for he sent unto me for my wives, and for my
children, and for my silver, and for my gold; and I denied him not.
8 And all the elders and all the people said unto him, Hearken thou not,
9 neither consent. Wherefore he said unto the messengers of Ben-hadad,
Tell my lord the king, All that thou didst send for to thy servant at the
first I will do: but this thing I may not do. And the messengers
10 departed, and brought him word again. And Ben-hadad sent unto
him, and said, The gods do so unto me, and more also, if the dust of
Samaria shall suffice for handfuls for all the people that [2]follow me.
11 And the king of Israel answered and said, Tell him, Let not him that
12 girdeth on *his armour* boast himself as he that putteth it off. And it
came to pass, when *Ben-hadad* heard this message, as he was drinking,
he and the kings, in the [3]pavilions, that he said unto his servants, [4]Set
yourselves in array. And they set *themselves in array* against the city.
13 And, behold, a prophet came near unto **Ahab** king of Israel, and said,
Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou seen all this great multitude? behold,
I will deliver it into thine hand this day; and thou shalt know that I
14 am the LORD. And Ahab said, By whom? And he said, Thus saith
the LORD, By the [5]young men of the princes of the provinces. Then
15 he said, Who shall [6]begin the battle? And he answered, Thou. Then
he mustered the young men of the princes of the provinces, and they
were two hundred and thirty two: and after them he mustered all the
16 people, even all the children of Israel, being seven thousand. And
they went out at noon. But Ben-hadad was drinking himself drunk in
the [3]pavilions, he and the kings, the thirty and two kings that helped
17 him. And the young men of the princes of the provinces went out
first; and Ben-hadad sent out, and they told him, saying, There are
18 men come out from Samaria. And he said, Whether they be come out
for peace, take them alive; or whether they be come out for war, take
19 them alive. So these went out of the city, the young men of the princes
20 of the provinces, and the army which followed them. And they slew
every one his man; and the Syrians fled, and Israel pursued them: and
21 Ben-hadad the king of Syria escaped [7]on an horse with horsemen. And
the king of Israel went out, and smote the horses and chariots, and slew
22 the Syrians with a great slaughter. And the prophet came near to the
king of Israel, and said unto him, Go, strengthen thyself, and mark, and
see what thou doest: for at the return of the year the king of Syria will
come up against thee.
23 And the servants of the king of Syria said unto him, Their god is a

[1] Heb. *all the desire of thine eyes.*
[2] Heb. *are at my feet.*
[3] Or, *huts*
[4] Or, *Place* the engines. *And they placed* the engines
[5] Or, *servants*
[6] Heb. *bind.*
[7] Or, *with horse and horsemen*

god of the hills; therefore they were stronger than we: but let us fight
against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger than they.
24 And do this thing; take the kings away, every man out of his place,
25 and put [1]captains in their room: and number thee an army, like the
army that thou hast lost, horse for horse, and chariot for chariot: and
we will fight against them in the plain, and surely we shall be stronger
26 than they. And he hearkened unto their voice, and did so. And it
came to pass at the return of the year, that **Ben-hadad** mustered the
27 Syrians, and went up to Aphek, to fight against Israel. And the
children of Israel were mustered, and were victualled, and went against
them: and the children of Israel encamped before them like two little
28 flocks of kids; but the Syrians filled the country. And [2]a man of God
came near and spake unto the king of Israel, and said, Thus saith the
LORD, Because the Syrians have said, The LORD is a god of the hills,
but he is not a god of the valleys; therefore will I deliver all this great
multitude into thine hand, and ye shall know that I am the LORD.
29 And they encamped one over against the other seven days. And so it
was, that in the seventh day the battle was joined; and the children of
Israel slew of the Syrians an hundred thousand footmen in one day.
30 But the rest fled to Aphek, into the city; and the wall fell upon twenty
and seven thousand men that were left. And Ben-hadad fled, and
31 came into the city, [3]into an inner chamber. And his servants said unto
him, Behold now, we have heard that the kings of the house of Israel
are merciful kings; let us, we pray thee, put sackcloth on our loins, and
ropes upon our heads, and go out to the king of Israel: peradventure
32 he will save thy life. So they girded sackcloth on their loins, and *put*
ropes on their heads, and came to the king of Israel, and said, Thy
servant Ben-hadad saith, I pray thee, let me live. And he said, Is he
33 yet alive? he is my brother. Now the men [4]observed diligently, and
hasted [5]to catch whether it were [6]his mind; and they said, Thy brother
Ben-hadad. Then he said, Go ye, bring him. Then Ben-hadad came
34 forth to him; and he caused him to come up into the chariot. And
Ben-hadad said unto him, The cities which my father took from thy
father I will restore: and thou shalt make streets for thee in Damascus,
as my father made in Samaria. And I, *said Ahab*, will let thee go with
this covenant. So he made a covenant with him, and let him go.
35 And a certain man of the sons of the prophets said unto his fellow by
the word of the LORD, Smite me, I pray thee. And the man refused to
36 smite him. Then said he unto him, Because thou hast not obeyed the
voice of the LORD, behold, as soon as thou art departed from me, a
lion shall slay thee. And as soon as he was departed from him, a lion
37 found him, and slew him. Then he found another man, and said,
Smite me, I pray thee. And the man smote him, smiting and wounding
38 him. So the prophet departed, and waited for the king by the way,
39 and disguised himself with his headband over his eyes. And as the

[1] Or, *governors* See ch. x. 15.
[2] Or, *the*
[3] Or, *from chamber to chamber*
[4] Or, *took it as an omen* (Heb. *divined*), *and hasted*
[5] Another reading is, *to catch it from him.*
[6] Heb. *from him.*

king passed by, he cried unto the king: and he said, Thy servant went
out into the midst of the battle; and, behold, a man turned aside, and
brought a man unto me, and said, Keep this man: if by any means he
be missing, then shall thy life be for his life, or else thou shalt pay a
40 talent of silver. And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was
gone. And the king of Israel said unto him, So shall thy judgement
41 be; thyself hast decided it. And he hasted, and took the headband
away from his eyes; and the king of Israel discerned him that he was
42 of the prophets. And he said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Because
thou hast let go out of thy hand the man whom I had devoted to
destruction, therefore thy life shall go for his life, and thy people for his
43 people. And the king of Israel went to his house heavy and displeased,
and came to Samaria.

Naboth's Vineyard.

21 And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite
had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of **Ahab** king
2 of Samaria. And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy
vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near
unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it: or,
3 if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money. And
Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the
4 inheritance of my fathers unto thee. And Ahab came into his house
heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite
had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance
of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away
5 his face, and would eat no bread. But Jezebel his wife came to him,
and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no
6 bread? And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the
Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else,
if it please thee, I will give thee *another* vineyard for it: and he
7 answered, I will not give thee my vineyard. And Jezebel his wife said
unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat
bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of
8 Naboth the Jezreelite. So she wrote [1]letters in Ahab's name, and
sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to
9 the nobles that were in his city, *and* that dwelt with Naboth. And she
wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth [2]on high
10 among the people: and set two men, sons of [3]Belial, before him, and
let them bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst [4]curse God and
11 the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he die. And
the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who dwelt in his
city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, according as it was written in
12 the letters which she had sent unto them. They proclaimed a fast, and
13 set Naboth [2]on high among the people. And the two men, sons of
Belial, came in and sat before him: and the men of Belial bare witness

[1] Or, *a letter*
[2] Or, *at the head of*
[3] That is, *worthlessness.*
[4] Or, *renounce*

against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying,
Naboth did [1]curse God and the king. Then they carried him forth
14 out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died. Then they
15 sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead. And it came
to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead,
that Jezebel said to **Ahab**, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of
Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for
16 Naboth is not alive, but dead. And it came to pass, when Ahab heard
that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard
of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.
17 And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,
18 Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which dwelleth in
Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone
19 down to take possession of it. And thou shalt speak unto him, saying,
Thus saith the LORD, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? and
thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the LORD, In the place
where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even
20 thine. And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy?
And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to
21 do that which is evil in the sight of the LORD. Behold, I will bring
evil upon thee, and will utterly sweep thee away, and will cut off from
Ahab every man child, and him that is shut up and him that is left at
22 large in Israel: and I will make thine house like the house of Jeroboam
the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, for
the provocation wherewith thou hast provoked me to anger, and hast
23 made Israel to sin. And of Jezebel also spake the LORD, saying, The
24 dogs shall eat Jezebel [2]by the rampart of Jezreel. Him that dieth of
Ahab in the city the dogs shall eat; and him that dieth in the field
25 shall the fowls of the air eat. (But there was none like unto Ahab,
which did sell himself to do that which was evil in the sight of the
26 LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up. And he did very abominably
in following idols, according to all that the Amorites did, whom the
27 LORD cast out before the children of Israel.) And it came to pass,
when Ahab heard those words, that he rent his clothes, and put
sackcloth upon his flesh, and fasted, and lay in sackcloth, and went
28 softly. And the word of the LORD came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,
29 Seest thou how Ahab humbleth himself before me? because he
humbleth himself before me, I will not bring the evil in his days: but
in his son's days will I bring the evil upon his house.

Reforms and Power of Jehoshaphat.

2 Chronicles 17. 1.

17 And **Jehoshaphat** [3]his son reigned in his stead, and strengthened
2 himself against Israel. And he placed forces in all the fenced cities of
Judah, and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of

[1] Or, *renounce*
[2] According to some ancient authorities, *in the portion*, as in 2 Kings ix. 10, 36.
[3] Asa's.

3 Ephraim, which Asa his father had taken. And the LORD was with
Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the first ways of his father David,
4 and sought not unto the Baalim; but sought to the God of his father,
and walked in his commandments, and not after the doings of Israel.
5 Therefore the LORD stablished the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah
brought to Jehoshaphat presents; and he had riches and honour in
6 abundance. And his heart was lifted up in the ways of the LORD: and
furthermore he took away the high places and the Asherim out of
7 Judah. Also in the third year of his reign he sent his princes, even
Ben-hail, and Obadiah, and Zechariah, and Nethanel, and Micaiah, to
8 teach in the cities of Judah; and with them the Levites, even Shemaiah,
and Nethaniah, and Zebadiah, and Asahel, and Shemiramoth, and
Jehonathan, and Adonijah, and Tobijah, and Tob-adonijah, the
9 Levites; and with them Elishama and Jehoram, the priests. And they
taught in Judah, having the book of the law of the LORD with them;
and they went about throughout all the cities of Judah, and taught
10 among the people. And [1]the fear of the LORD fell upon all the
kingdoms of the lands that were round about Judah, so that they made
11 no war against Jehoshaphat. And some of the Philistines brought
Jehoshaphat presents, and silver for tribute; the Arabians also brought
him flocks, seven thousand and seven hundred rams, and seven
12 thousand and seven hundred he-goats. And Jehoshaphat waxed great
13 exceedingly; and he built in Judah castles and cities of store. And he
had many works in the cities of Judah; and men of war, mighty men
14 of valour, in Jerusalem. And this was the numbering of them
according to their fathers' houses: of Judah, the captains of thousands;
Adnah the captain, and with him mighty men of valour three hundred
15 thousand: and next to him Jehohanan the captain, and with him two
16 hundred and fourscore thousand: and next to him Amasiah the son of
Zichri, who willingly offered himself unto the LORD; and with him two
17 hundred thousand mighty men of valour: and of Benjamin; Eliada a
mighty man of valour, and with him two hundred thousand armed with
18 bow and shield: and next to him Jehozabad, and with him an hundred
19 and fourscore thousand ready prepared for war. These were they that
waited on the king, beside those whom the king put in the fenced cities
throughout all Judah.

Jehoshaphat's Alliance with Ahab. Prophecy of Micaiah.

1 Kings 22. 1.

22 And they continued three years
without war between Syria and
2 Israel. And it came to pass in
the third year, that Jehosha-
phat the king of Judah came
3 down to the king of Israel. And
the king of Israel said unto his

2 Chronicles 18. 1.

18 Now Jehoshaphat had riches
and honour in abundance; and
he joined affinity with **Ahab**.
2 And after certain years he went
down to Ahab to Samaria. And
Ahab killed sheep and oxen for
him in abundance, and for the

[1] Or, *a terror from the* LORD

servants, Know ye that Ramoth-
gilead is ours, and we [1]be still,
and take it not out of the hand
4 of the king of Syria? And he said
unto **Jehoshaphat**, Wilt thou
go with me to battle to Ramoth-
gilead? And Jehoshaphat said
to the king of Israel, I am as
thou art, my people as thy
people, my horses as thy horses.
5 And Jehoshaphat said unto the
king of Israel, Inquire, I pray
thee, at the word of the LORD
6 to-day. Then the king of Israel
gathered the prophets together,
about four hundred men, and
said unto them, Shall I go
against Ramoth-gilead to battle,
or shall I forbear? And they
said, Go up; for the Lord shall
deliver it into the hand of the
7 king. But Jehoshaphat said,
Is there not here besides a
prophet of the LORD, that we
8 might inquire of him? And the
king of Israel said unto Jehosha-
phat, There is yet one man by
whom we may inquire of the
LORD, Micaiah the son of Imlah:
but I hate him; for he doth not
prophesy good concerning me,
but evil. And Jehoshaphat said,
9 Let not the king say so. Then
the king of Israel called an
[2]officer, and said, Fetch quickly
10 Micaiah the son of Imlah. Now
the king of Israel and Jehosha-
phat the king of Judah sat each
on his throne, arrayed in their
robes, in [3]an open place at the
entrance of the gate of Samaria;
and all the prophets prophesied
11 before them. And Zedekiah the
son of Chenaanah made him
horns of iron, and said, Thus
saith the LORD, With these shalt
thou push the Syrians, until they

[1] Or, *keep silence* [2] Or, *eunuch*
[3] Heb. *a threshing-floor.*

people that were with him, and
moved him to go up *with him*
3 to Ramoth-gilead. And **Ahab**
king of Israel said unto **Jehosha-
phat** king of Judah, Wilt thou go
with me to Ramoth-gilead? And
he answered him, I am as thou
art, and my people as thy people;
and *we will be* with thee in the
4 war. And Jehoshaphat said unto
the king of Israel, Inquire, I pray
thee, at the word of the LORD
5 to-day. Then the king of Israel
gathered the prophets together,
four hundred men, and said unto
them, Shall we go to Ramoth-
gilead to battle, or shall I for-
bear? And they said, Go up;
for God shall deliver it into the
6 hand of the king. But Jehosha-
phat said, Is there not here
besides a prophet of the LORD,
that we might inquire of him?
7 And the king of Israel said unto
Jehoshaphat, There is yet one
man by whom we may inquire of
the LORD: but I hate him; for
he never prophesieth good con-
cerning me, but always evil: the
same is Micaiah the son of Imla.
And Jehoshaphat said, Let not
8 the king say so. Then the king
of Israel called an [1]officer, and
said, Fetch quickly Micaiah the
9 son of Imla. Now the king of
Israel and Jehoshaphat the king
of Judah sat each on his throne,
arrayed in their robes, and they
sat in [2]an open place at the
entrance of the gate of Samaria;
and all the prophets prophesied
10 before them. And Zedekiah the
son of Chenaanah made him
horns of iron, and said, Thus
saith the LORD, With these shalt
thou push the Syrians, until they

[1] Or, *eunuch*
[2] Heb. *a threshing-floor.*

12 be consumed. And all the
prophets prophesied so, saying,
Go up to Ramoth-gilead, and
prosper: for the LORD shall
deliver it into the hand of the
13 king. And the messenger that
went to call Micaiah spake unto
him, saying, Behold now, the
words of the prophets *declare*
good unto the king with one
mouth: let thy word, I pray
thee, be like the word of one of
them, and speak thou good.
14 And Micaiah said, As the LORD
liveth, what the LORD saith unto
15 me, that will I speak. And when
he was come to the king, the
king said unto him, Micaiah,
shall we go to Ramoth-gilead to
battle, or shall we forbear? And
he answered him, Go up, and
prosper; and the LORD shall
deliver it into the hand of the
16 king. And the king said unto
him, How many times shall I
adjure thee that thou speak unto
me nothing but the truth in the
17 name of the LORD? And he
said, I saw all Israel scattered
upon the mountains, as sheep
that have no shepherd: and the
LORD said, These have no master;
let them return every man to his
18 house in peace. And the king
of Israel said to **Jehoshaphat**,
Did I not tell thee that he would
not prophesy good concerning
19 me, but evil? And he said,
Therefore hear thou the word
of the LORD: I saw the LORD
sitting on his throne, and all the
host of heaven standing by him
on his right hand and on his left.
20 And the LORD said, Who shall
[1]entice **Ahab**, that he may go up
and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And
one said on this manner; and
another said on that manner.

[1] Or, *deceive*

11 be consumed. And all the
prophets prophesied so, saying,
Go up to Ramoth-gilead, and
prosper: for the LORD shall
deliver it into the hand of the
12 king. And the messenger that
went to call Micaiah spake to
him, saying, Behold, the words
of the prophets *declare* good to
the king with one mouth: let
thy word therefore, I pray thee,
be like one of theirs, and speak
13 thou good. And Micaiah said,
As the LORD liveth, what my
God saith, that will I speak.
14 And when he was come to the
king, the king said unto him,
[1]Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-
gilead to battle, or shall I for-
bear? And he said, Go ye up,
and prosper; and they shall be
delivered into your hand.
15 And the king said to him,
How many times shall I adjure
thee that thou speak unto me
nothing but the truth in the name
16 of the LORD? And he said, I
saw all Israel scattered upon the
mountains, as sheep that have
no shepherd: and the LORD
said, These have no master; let
them return every man to his
17 house in peace. And the king
of Israel said to **Jehoshaphat**,
Did I not tell thee that he would
not prophesy good concerning
18 me, but evil? And he said,
Therefore hear ye the word of
the LORD: I saw the LORD
sitting upon his throne, and all
the host of heaven standing on
his right hand and on his left.
19 And the LORD said, Who shall
[2]entice **Ahab** king of Israel, that
he may go up and fall at Ramoth-
gilead? And one spake saying
after this manner, and another
20 saying after that manner. And

[1] Heb. *Micah.* [2] Or, *deceive*

21 And there came forth [1]a spirit,
and stood before the LORD, and
22 said, I will entice him. And the
LORD said unto him, Wherewith?
And he said, I will go forth, and
will be a lying spirit in the mouth
of all his prophets. And he said,
Thou shalt entice him, and shalt
prevail also: go forth, and do so.
23 Now therefore, behold, the LORD
hath put a lying spirit in the
mouth of all these thy prophets;
and the LORD hath spoken evil
24 concerning thee. Then Zedekiah
the son of Chenaanah came near,
and smote Micaiah on the cheek,
and said, Which way went the
spirit of the LORD from me to
25 speak unto thee? And Micaiah
said, Behold, thou shalt see on
that day, when thou shalt go
[2]into an inner chamber to hide
26 thyself. And the king of Israel
said, Take Micaiah, and carry
him back unto Amon the gover-
nor of the city, and to Joash the
27 king's son; and say, Thus saith
the king, Put this fellow in the
prison, and feed him with bread
of affliction and with water of
affliction, until I come in peace.
28 And Micaiah said, If thou return
at all in peace, the LORD hath
not spoken by me. And he said,
[3]Hear, ye peoples, all of you.

there came forth [1]a spirit, and
stood before the LORD, and said,
I will entice him. And the LORD
21 said unto him, Wherewith? And
he said, I will go forth, and will
be a lying spirit in the mouth of
all his prophets. And he said,
Thou shalt entice him, and shalt
prevail also: go forth, and do so.
22 Now therefore, behold, the LORD
hath put a lying spirit in the
mouth of these thy prophets;
and the LORD hath spoken evil
23 concerning thee. Then Zedekiah
the son of Chenaanah came near,
and smote Micaiah upon the
cheek, and said, Which way
went the spirit of the LORD from
24 me to speak unto thee? And
Micaiah said, Behold, thou shalt
see on that day, when thou shalt
go [2]into an inner chamber to
25 hide thyself. And the king of
Israel said, Take ye Micaiah,
and carry him back unto Amon
the governor of the city, and to
26 Joash the king's son; and say,
Thus saith the king, Put this
fellow in the prison, and feed
him with bread of affliction and
with water of affliction, until I
27 return in peace. And Micaiah
said, If thou return at all in
peace, the LORD hath not spoken
by me. And he said, [3]Hear, ye
peoples, all of you.

Battle of Ramoth-Gilead, and Death of Ahab.

29 So the king of Israel and
Jehoshaphat the king of Judah
30 went up to Ramoth-gilead. And
the king of Israel said unto
Jehoshaphat, I will disguise my-
self, and go into the battle; but
put thou on thy robes. And the

28 So the king of Israel and **Jeho-**
shaphat the king of Judah went
29 up to Ramoth-gilead. And the
king of Israel said unto Jehosha-
phat, I will disguise myself, and
go into the battle; but put thou
on thy robes. So the king of

[1] Heb. *the spirit.*
[2] Or, *from chamber to chamber*
[3] See Micah i. 2.

[1] Heb. *the spirit.*
[2] Or, *from chamber to chamber*
[3] See Micah i. 2.

king of Israel disguised himself,
31 and went into the battle. Now
the king of Syria had commanded
the thirty and two captains of his
chariots, saying, Fight neither
with small nor great, save only
32 with the king of Israel. And it
came to pass, when the captains of
the chariots saw **Jehoshaphat**,
that they said, Surely it is the
king of Israel; and they turned
aside to fight against him: and
33 Jehoshaphat cried out. And it
came to pass, when the captains
of the chariots saw that it was
not the king of Israel, that they
turned back from pursuing him.
34 And a certain man drew his bow
[1]at a venture, and smote the king
of Israel between [2]the joints of
the harness: wherefore he said
unto the driver of his chariot,
Turn thine hand, and carry me
out of the host; for I am sore
35 wounded. And the battle in-
creased that day: and the king
was stayed up in his chariot
against the Syrians, and died at
even: and the blood ran out of
the wound into the bottom of the
36 chariot. And there went a cry
throughout the host about the
going down of the sun, saying,
Every man to his city, and every
37 man to his country. So the king
died, and was brought to Samaria;
and they buried the king in Sa-
38 maria. And they washed the
chariot by the pool of Samaria;
and the dogs licked up his blood;
([3]now the harlots washed them-
selves *there*;) according unto the
word of the LORD which he
39 spake. Now the rest of the
acts of **Ahab**, and all that he
did, and the ivory house which

[1] Heb. *in his simplicity.*
[2] Or, *the lower armour and the breast-plate*
[3] Or, *and they washed the armour*

Israel disguised himself; and
30 they went into the battle. Now
the king of Syria had commanded
the captains of his chariots, saying,
Fight neither with small nor great,
save only with the king of Israel.
31 And it came to pass, when the
captains of the chariots saw
Jehoshaphat, that they said, It
is the king of Israel. Therefore
they turned about to fight against
him: but Jehoshaphat cried out,
and the LORD helped him; and
God moved them *to depart* from
32 him. And it came to pass, when
the captains of the chariots saw
that it was not the king of Israel,
that they turned back from pur-
33 suing him. And a certain man
drew his bow [1]at a venture, and
smote the king of Israel between
[2]the joints of the harness: where-
fore he said to the driver of the
chariot, Turn thine hand, and
carry me out of the host; for I
34 am sore wounded. And the
battle increased that day: how-
beit the king of Israel stayed
himself up in his chariot against
the Syrians until the even: and
about the time of the going down
of the sun he died.

[1] Heb. *in his simplicity.*
[2] Or, *the lower armour and the breast-plate*

he built, and all the cities that he built, are they not written in the
40 book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? So **Ahab** slept with his
fathers; and **Ahaziah** his son reigned in his stead.

2 Chronicles 19. 1.

The Prophecy of Jehu, son of Hanani.

19 And **Jehoshaphat** the king of Judah returned to his house in peace
2 to Jerusalem. And Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet
him, and said to king Jehoshaphat, Shouldest thou help the wicked, and
love them that hate the LORD? for this thing wrath is upon thee from
3 before the LORD. Nevertheless there are good things found in thee, in
that thou hast put away the Asheroth out of the land, and hast set thine
heart to seek God.
4 And Jehoshaphat dwelt at Jerusalem: and he went out again among
the people from Beer-sheba to the hill country of Ephraim, and brought
5 them back unto the LORD, the God of their fathers. And he set judges
6 in the land throughout all the fenced cities of Judah, city by city, and
said to the judges, Consider what ye do: for ye judge not for man, but
7 for the LORD; and *he is* with you [1]in the judgement. Now therefore let
the fear of the LORD be upon you; take heed and do it: for there is no
iniquity with the LORD our God, nor respect of persons, nor taking of
8 gifts. Moreover in Jerusalem did Jehoshaphat set of the Levites and
the priests, and of the heads of the fathers' *houses* of Israel, for the
judgement of the LORD, and for controversies. And they returned to
9 Jerusalem. And he charged them, saying, Thus shall ye do in the fear
10 of the LORD, faithfully, and with a perfect heart. And whensoever any
controversy shall come to you from your brethren that dwell in their
cities, between blood and blood, between law and commandment, statutes
and judgements, ye shall warn them, that they be not guilty towards the
LORD, and so wrath come upon you and upon your brethren: this do,
11 and ye shall not be guilty. And, behold, Amariah the chief priest is
over you in all matters of the LORD; and Zebadiah the son of Ishmael,
the ruler of the house of Judah, in all the king's matters: also the
Levites shall be officers before you. [2]Deal courageously, and the LORD
be with the good.

Invasion of Judah by Moab and Ammon.

20 And it came to pass after this, that the children of Moab, and the
children of Ammon, and with them some of the [3]Ammonites, came
2 against Jehoshaphat to battle. Then there came some that told
Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from
beyond the sea from Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazon-tamar
3 (the same is En-gedi). And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek
4 unto the LORD; and he proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. And

[1] Or, *in giving judgement* Heb. *in the matter of judgement.*
[2] Heb. *Be strong and do.*
[3] Perhaps an error for *Meunim.* So the Sept. See ch. xxvi. 7.

Judah gathered themselves together, to seek *help* of the LORD: even
5 out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the LORD. And
Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the
6 house of the LORD, before the new court; and he said, O LORD, the
God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and art not thou
ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? and in thine hand is power
7 and might, so that none is able to withstand thee. Didst not thou, O
our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel,
8 and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? And they
dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name,
9 saying, If evil come upon us, [1]the sword, judgement, or pestilence, or
famine, we will stand before this house, and before thee, (for thy
name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, and thou wilt
10 hear and save. And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab
and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they
came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned aside from them, and
11 destroyed them not; behold, how they reward us, to come to cast us
12 out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. O our God,
wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great
company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but
13 our eyes are upon thee. And all Judah stood before the LORD, with
14 their little ones, their wives, and their children. Then upon Jahaziel
the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of
Mattaniah, the Levite, of the sons of Asaph, came the spirit of the
15 LORD in the midst of the congregation; and he said, Hearken ye, all
Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat:
thus saith the LORD unto you, Fear not ye, neither be dismayed by
reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.
16 To-morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the
ascent of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the valley, before
17 the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this *battle*: set
yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you,
O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed: to-morrow go out
18 against them; for the LORD is with you. And Jehoshaphat bowed his
head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of
19 Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. And the
Levites, of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the
Korahites, stood up to praise the LORD, the God of Israel, with an
20 exceeding loud voice. And they rose early in the morning, and went
forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehosha-
phat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of
Jerusalem; believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established;
21 believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. And when he had taken
counsel with the people, he appointed them that should sing unto the
LORD, and praise [2]the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the
army, and say, Give thanks unto the LORD; for his mercy *endureth* for
22 ever. And when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set liers
in wait against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which

[1] Or, *the sword of judgement*

[2] Or, *in the beauty of holiness*

23 were come against Judah; and they were smitten. For the children of
Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir,
utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of
24 the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another. And
when Judah came to the watch-tower of the wilderness, they looked
upon the multitude; and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the
25 earth, and there were none that escaped. And when **Jehoshaphat** and
his people came to take the spoil of them, they found among them in
abundance both riches and [1]dead bodies, and precious jewels, which
they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and
26 they were three days in taking of the spoil, it was so much. And on
the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of [2]Beracah; for
there they blessed the LORD: therefore the name of that place was
27 called The valley of [2]Beracah, unto this day. Then they returned,
every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat in the forefront
of them, to go again to Jerusalem with joy; for the LORD had made
28 them to rejoice over their enemies. And they came to Jerusalem with
29 psalteries and harps and trumpets unto the house of the LORD. And
the fear of God was on all the kingdoms of the countries, when they
30 heard that the LORD fought against the enemies of Israel. So the
realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet: for his God gave him rest round
about.

Jehoshaphat's Alliance with Ahaziah.

1 Kings 22. 41.

41 And Jehoshaphat the son of
Asa began to reign over Judah
in the fourth year of Ahab king
42 of Israel. Jehoshaphat was thirty
and five years old when he began
to reign; and he reigned twenty
and five years in Jerusalem. And
his mother's name was Azubah
43 the daughter of Shilhi. And
he walked in all the way of
Asa his father; he turned not
aside from it, doing that which
was right in the eyes of the LORD:
howbeit the high places were not
taken away; the people still
sacrificed and burnt incense in the
44 high places. And Jehoshaphat
made peace with the king of
45 Israel. Now the rest of the
acts of Jehoshaphat, and his
might that he shewed, and how

2 Chronicles 20. 31.

31 And Jehoshaphat reigned over
Judah: he was thirty and five
years old when he began to
reign; and he reigned twenty
and five years in Jerusalem:
and his mother's name was
Azubah the daughter of Shilhi.
32 And he walked in the way of
Asa his father, and turned not
aside from it, doing that which
was right in the eyes of the
33 LORD. Howbeit the high places
were not taken away; neither as
yet had the people set their
hearts unto the God of their
34 fathers. Now the rest of the
acts of Jehoshaphat, first and
last, behold, they are written in
the [3]history of Jehu the son of
Hanani, [4]which is inserted in
the book of the kings of Israel.

[1] According to some ancient authorities, *garments*.

[2] That is, *Blessing*.

[3] Heb. *words*.

[4] Or, *who is mentioned*

he warred, are they not written
in the book of the chronicles of
46 the kings of Judah? And the
remnant of the sodomites, which
remained in the days of his
father Asa, he put away out of
47 the land. And there was no king
in Edom: a deputy was king.
48 **Jehoshaphat** made ships of
Tarshish to go to Ophir for gold:
but they went not; for the ships
49 were broken at Ezion-geber. Then
said **Ahaziah** the son of Ahab
unto Jehoshaphat, Let my ser-
vants go with thy servants in
the ships. But Jehoshaphat
50 would not. And Jehoshaphat
slept with his fathers, and was
buried with his fathers in the
city of David his father: and
Jehoram his son reigned in his
stead.

51 Ahaziah the son of Ahab
began to reign over Israel in
Samaria in the seventeenth year
of Jehoshaphat king of Judah,
and he reigned two years over
52 Israel. And he did that which
was evil in the sight of the
LORD, and walked in the way
of his father, and in the way
of his mother, and in the way
of Jeroboam the son of Nebat,
[1] wherein he made Israel to sin.
53 And he served Baal, and wor-
shipped him, and provoked to
anger the LORD, the God of
Israel, according to all that his
father had done.

35 And after this did **Jehosha-**
phat king of Judah join himself
with **Ahaziah** king of Israel; the
36 same did very wickedly: and
he joined himself with him to
make ships to go to Tarshish:
and they made the ships in
37 Ezion-geber. Then Eliezer the
son of Dodavahu of Mareshah
prophesied against Jehoshaphat,
saying, Because thou hast joined
thyself with Ahaziah, the LORD
hath [1] destroyed thy works. And
the ships were broken, that they
were not able to go to Tarshish.

2 Kings 1. 1.

Elijah and the Messengers of Ahaziah.

1 And Moab rebelled against Israel after the death of Ahab. And
Ahaziah fell down through the lattice in his upper chamber that was
in Samaria, and was sick: and he sent messengers, and said unto them,

[1] Or, *who made*

[1] Or, *made a breach in*

Go, inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron whether I shall recover of
3 this sickness. But the angel of the LORD said to Elijah the Tishbite,
Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say
unto them, Is it because there is no God in Israel, that ye go to inquire
4 of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? Now therefore thus saith the LORD,
Thou shalt not come down from the bed whither thou art gone up, but
5 shalt surely die. And Elijah departed. And the messengers returned
unto him, and he said unto them, Why is it that ye are returned?
6 And they said unto him, There came up a man to meet us, and said
unto us, Go, turn again unto the king that sent you, and say unto him,
Thus saith the LORD, Is it because there is no God in Israel, that thou
sendest to inquire of Baal-zebub the god of Ekron? therefore thou
shalt not come down from the bed whither thou art gone up, but shalt
7 surely die. And he said unto them, What manner of man was he
8 which came up to meet you, and told you these words? And they
answered him, He was [1]an hairy man, and girt with a girdle of leather
9 about his loins. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite. Then *the king*
sent unto him a captain of fifty with his fifty. And he went up to him:
and, behold, he [2]sat on the top of the hill. And he spake unto him,
10 O man of God, the king hath said, Come down. And Elijah answered
and said to the captain of fifty, If I be a man of God, let fire come
down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty. And there came
11 down fire from heaven, and consumed him and his fifty. And again he
sent unto him another captain of fifty with his fifty. And he answered
and said unto him, O man of God, thus hath the king said, Come down
12 quickly. And Elijah answered and said unto them, If I be a man of
God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume thee and thy fifty.
And the fire of God came down from heaven, and consumed him and
13 his fifty. And again he sent the captain of a third fifty with his fifty.
And the third captain of fifty went up, and came and fell on his knees
before Elijah, and besought him, and said unto him, O man of God, I
pray thee, let my life, and the life of these fifty thy servants, be
14 precious in thy sight. Behold, there came fire down from heaven, and
consumed the two former captains of fifty with their fifties: but now let
15 my life be precious in thy sight. And the angel of the LORD said unto
Elijah, Go down with him: be not afraid of him. And he arose, and
16 went down with him unto the king. And he said unto him, Thus saith
the LORD, Forasmuch as thou hast sent messengers to inquire of
Baal-zebub the god of Ekron, is it because there is no God in Israel to
inquire of his word? therefore thou shalt not come down from the bed
17 whither thou art gone up, but shalt surely die. So he died according
to the word of the LORD which Elijah had spoken. And **Jehoram**
began to reign in his stead in the second year of Jehoram the son of
18 Jehoshaphat king of Judah; because he had no son. Now the rest of
the acts of **Ahaziah** which he did, are they not written in the book of
the chronicles of the kings of Israel?

[1] Or, *a man with* a garment of *hair*

[2] Or, *dwelt*

The Assumption of Elijah.

2 And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah by a
2 whirlwind into heaven, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. And
Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath
sent me as far as Beth-el. And Elisha said, As the LORD liveth, and as
thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Beth-el.
3 And the sons of the prophets that were at Beth-el came forth to Elisha,
and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy
master from thy head to-day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye
4 your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee;
for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the LORD
liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to
5 Jericho. And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came near
to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take
away thy master from thy head to-day? And he answered, Yea, I
6 know it; hold ye your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Tarry here,
I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As
the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And
7 they two went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went,
and stood over against them afar off: and they two stood by Jordan.
8 And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the
waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went
9 over on dry ground. And it came to pass, [1]when they were gone
over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before
I be taken from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let [2]a double
10 portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard
thing: *nevertheless*, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall
11 be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as
they still went on, and talked, that, behold, *there appeared* [3]a chariot of
fire, and horses of fire, which parted them both asunder; and Elijah
12 went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried,
My father, my father, the [4]chariots of Israel and the horsemen thereof!
And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and
13 rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that
14 fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan. And
he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters,
and said, Where is the LORD, [5]the God of Elijah? and when he also
had smitten the waters, they were divided hither and thither: and
15 Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were at
Jericho over against him saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth
rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to
16 the ground before him. And they said unto him, Behold now, there
be with thy servants fifty strong men; let them go, we pray thee, and
seek thy master: lest peradventure the spirit of the LORD hath taken

[1] Or, *as they went*
[2] That is, the portion of the firstborn. See Deut. xxi. 17.
[3] Or, *chariots*
[4] Or, *chariot*
[5] Or, *the God of Elijah, even he? and when he had smitten &c.*

him up, and cast him upon some mountain, or into some valley. And
17 he said, Ye shall not send. And when they urged him till he was
ashamed, he said, Send. They sent therefore fifty men; and they
18 sought three days, but found him not. And they came back to him,
while he tarried at Jericho; and he said unto them, Did I not say unto
you, Go not?

First Acts of Elisha.

19 And the men of the city said unto Elisha, Behold, we pray thee, the
situation of this city is pleasant, as my lord seeth: but the water is
20 naught, and the land [1]miscarrieth. And he said, Bring me a new cruse,
21 and put salt therein. And they brought it to him. And he went forth
unto the spring of the waters, and cast salt therein, and said, Thus saith
the LORD, I have healed these waters; there shall not be from thence
22 any more death or [2]miscarrying. So the waters were healed unto this
day, according to the word of Elisha which he spake.
23 And he went up from thence unto Beth-el: and as he was going up
by the way, there came forth [3]little children out of the city, and
mocked him, and said unto him, Go up, thou bald head; go up, thou
24 bald head. And he looked behind him and saw them, and cursed
them in the name of the LORD. And there came forth two she-bears
25 out of the wood, and tare forty and two children of them. And he
went from thence to mount Carmel, and from thence he returned to
Samaria.

War of Judah, Israel, and Edom with Mesha, king of Moab.

3 Now **Jehoram** the son of Ahab began to reign over Israel in Samaria
in the eighteenth year of **Jehoshaphat** king of Judah, and reigned
2 twelve years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the
LORD; but not like his father, and like his mother: for he put away the
3 [4]pillar of Baal that his father had made. Nevertheless he cleaved unto
the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, wherewith he made Israel to
sin; he departed not therefrom.
4 Now Mesha king of Moab was a sheepmaster; and he rendered unto
the king of Israel [5]the wool of an hundred thousand lambs, and of an
5 hundred thousand rams. But it came to pass, when Ahab was dead,
6 that the king of Moab rebelled against the king of Israel. And king
Jehoram went out of Samaria at that time, and mustered all Israel.
7 And he went and sent to Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, saying, The
king of Moab hath rebelled against me: wilt thou go with me against
Moab to battle? And he said, I will go up: I am as thou art, my
8 people as thy people, my horses as thy horses. And he said, Which
way shall we go up? And he answered, The way of the wilderness of
9 Edom. So the king of Israel went, and the king of Judah, and the

[1] Or, *casteth her fruit*
[2] Or, *casting of fruit*
[3] Or, *young lads*
[4] Or, *obelisk*
[5] Or, *an hundred thousand lambs, and an hundred thousand rams*, with *the wool*

king of Edom: and they made a circuit of seven days' journey: and
there was no water for the host, nor for the beasts that followed them.
10 And the king of Israel said, Alas! for the LORD hath called these three
11 kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab. But **Jehosha-**
phat said, Is there not here a prophet of the LORD, that we may inquire
of the LORD by him? And one of the king of Israel's servants answered
and said, Elisha the son of Shaphat is here, which poured water on the
12 hands of Elijah. And Jehoshaphat said, The word of the LORD is
with him. So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat and the king of
13 Edom went down to him. And Elisha said unto the king of Israel,
What have I to do with thee? get thee to the prophets of thy father,
and to the prophets of thy mother. And the king of Israel said unto
him, Nay: for the LORD hath called these three kings together to
14 deliver them into the hand of Moab. And Elisha said, As the LORD of
hosts liveth, before whom I stand, surely, were it not that I regard the
presence of Jehoshaphat the king of Judah, I would not look toward
15 thee, nor see thee. But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to
pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the LORD came upon
16 him. And he said, Thus saith the LORD, Make this valley full of
17 trenches. For thus saith the LORD, Ye shall not see wind, neither
shall ye see rain, yet that valley shall be filled with water: and ye shall
18 drink, both ye and your cattle and your beasts. And this is but a light
thing in the sight of the LORD: he will also deliver the Moabites into
19 your hand. And ye shall smite every fenced city, and every choice
city, and shall fell every good tree, and stop all fountains of water, and
20 mar every good piece of land with stones. And it came to pass in the
morning, about the time of offering the oblation, that, behold, there
came water by the way of Edom, and the country was filled with water.
21 Now when all the Moabites heard that the kings were come up to fight
against them, they [1]gathered themselves together, all that were able to
22 [2]put on armour, and upward, and stood on the border. And they rose
up early in the morning, and the sun shone upon the water, and the
23 Moabites saw the water over against them as red as blood: and they
said, This is blood; the kings [3]are surely destroyed, and they have
24 smitten each man his fellow: now therefore, Moab, to the spoil. And
when they came to the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and smote
the Moabites, so that they fled before them: and they went forward
25 [4]into the land smiting the Moabites. And they beat down the cities;
and on every good piece of land they cast every man his stone, and
filled it; and they stopped all the fountains of water, and felled all the
good trees: until in Kir-hareseth *only* they left the stones thereof;
26 howbeit the slingers went about it, and smote it. And when the king
of Moab saw that the battle was too sore for him, he took with him
seven hundred men that drew sword, to break through unto the king of
27 Edom: but they could not. Then he took his eldest son that should
have reigned in his stead, and offered him for a burnt offering upon the

[1] Or, *were called together*
[2] Heb. *gird themselves with a girdle.*
[3] Or, *have surely fought together*
[4] Heb. *into it.*

wall. And [1]there was great wrath against Israel: and they departed from him, and returned to their own land.

Elisha and the poor Widow.

4 Now there cried a certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets unto Elisha, saying, Thy servant my husband is dead: and thou knowest that thy servant did fear the LORD: and the creditor is
2 come to take unto him my two children to be bondmen. And Elisha said unto her, What shall I do for thee? tell me; what hast thou in the house? And she said, Thine handmaid hath not any thing in the
3 house, save a pot of oil. Then he said, Go, borrow thee vessels abroad
4 of all thy neighbours, even empty vessels; borrow not a few. And thou shalt go in, and shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and pour out into all those vessels; and thou shalt set aside that which is
5 full. So she went from him, and shut the door upon her and upon her
6 sons; they brought *the vessels* to her, and she poured out. And it came to pass, when the vessels were full, that she said unto her son, Bring me yet a vessel. And he said unto her, There is not a vessel more. And
7 the oil stayed. Then she came and told the man of God. And he said, Go, sell the oil, and pay thy debt, and live thou and thy sons of the rest.

Elisha and the Shunemite Woman.

8 And it fell on a day, that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman; and she constrained him to eat bread. And so it was, that as oft as he passed by, he turned in thither to eat bread.
9 And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is
10 an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually. Let us make, I pray thee, a little chamber [2]on the wall; and let us set for him there a bed, and a table, and a stool, and a candlestick: and it shall be, when
11 he cometh to us, that he shall turn in thither. And it fell on a day, that he came thither, and he turned into the chamber and lay there.
12 And he said to Gehazi his servant, Call this Shunammite. And when
13 he had called her, she stood before him. And he said unto him, Say now unto her, Behold, thou hast [3]been careful for us with all this care; what is to be done for thee? wouldest thou be spoken for to the king, or to the captain of the host? And she answered, I dwell among mine
14 own people. And he said, What then is to be done for her? And
15 Gehazi answered, Verily she hath no son, and her husband is old. And he said, Call her. And when he had called her, she stood in the door.
16 And he said, At this season, when the time [4]cometh round, thou shalt embrace a son. And she said, Nay, my lord, thou man of God, do not
17 lie unto thine handmaid. And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season, when the time came round, as Elisha had said unto her.

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[1] Or, *there came great wrath upon Israel*

[2] Or, *with walls*

[3] Or, *shewed us all this reverence*

[4] Heb. *liveth*, or, *reviveth.*

18 And when the child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his
19 father to the reapers. And he said unto his father, My head, my head.
20 And he said to his servant, Carry him to his mother. And when he had
taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till
21 noon, and then died. And she went up, and laid him on the bed of
22 the man of God, and shut *the door* upon him, and went out. And she
called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the
servants, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and
23 come again. And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to-day? it is
24 neither new moon nor sabbath. And she said, [1]It shall be well. Then
she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward;
25 slacken me not the riding, except I bid thee. So she went, and came
unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when
the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant,
26 Behold, yonder is the Shunammite: run, I pray thee, now to meet her,
and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is
27 it well with the child? And she answered, It is well. And when she
came to the man of God to the hill, she caught hold of his feet. And
Gehazi came near to thrust her away; but the man of God said, Let
her alone: for her soul is [2]vexed within her; and the LORD hath hid it
28 from me, and hath not told me. Then she said, Did I desire a son of
29 my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me? Then he said to Gehazi,
Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if
thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him
30 not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child. And the mother
of the child said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not
31 leave thee. And he arose, and followed her. And Gehazi passed on
before them, and laid the staff upon the face of the child; but there was
neither voice, nor [3]hearing. Wherefore he returned to meet him, and
32 told him, saying, The child is not awaked. And when Elisha was come
33 into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed. He
went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto
34 the LORD. And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth
upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his
hands: and he [4]stretched himself upon him; and the flesh of the child
35 waxed warm. Then he returned, and walked in the house once to and
fro; and went up, and [4]stretched himself upon him: [5]and the child
36 sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes. And he called
Gehazi, and said, Call this Shunammite. So he called her. And when
37 she was come in unto him, he said, Take up thy son. Then she went
in, and fell at his feet, and bowed herself to the ground; and she took
up her son, and went out.

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[1] Heb. *Peace.*
[2] Heb. *bitter.*
[3] Heb. *attention.*
[4] Or, *bowed himself*
[5] Or, *and embraced the child*

Elisha and the Sons of the Prophets at Gilgal.

38 And Elisha came again to Gilgal: and there was a dearth in the
land; and the sons of the prophets were sitting before him: and he
said unto his servant, Set on the great pot, and seethe pottage for the
39 sons of the prophets. And one went out into the field to gather herbs,
and found a wild vine, and gathered thereof wild gourds his lap full,
and came and shred them into the pot of pottage: for they knew them
40 not. So they poured out for the men to eat. And it came to pass, as
they were eating of the pottage, that they cried out, and said, O man of
41 God, there is death in the pot. And they could not eat thereof. But
he said, Then bring meal. And he cast it into the pot; and he said,
Pour out for the people, that they may eat. And there was no [1]harm
in the pot.
42 And there came a man from Baal-shalishah, and brought the man of
God bread of the firstfruits, twenty loaves of barley, and fresh ears of
corn in [2]his sack. And he said, Give unto the people, that they may
43 eat. And his [3]servant said, What, should I set this before an hundred
men? But he said, Give the people, that they may eat; for thus saith
44 the LORD, They shall eat, and shall leave thereof. So he set it before
them, and they did eat, and left thereof, according to the word of the
LORD.

Elisha and the Healing of Naaman the Syrian.

5 Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great
man [4]with his master, and honourable, because by him the LORD had
given [5]victory unto Syria: he was also a mighty man of valour, *but he*
2 *was* a leper. And the Syrians had gone out in bands, and had brought
away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she [6]waited on
3 Naaman's wife. And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord
were [4]with the prophet that is in Samaria! then would he recover him
4 of his leprosy. And [7]one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and
5 thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel. And the king of Syria
said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel. And
he departed, and took with him ten talents of silver, and six thousand
6 [8]*pieces* of gold, and ten changes of raiment. And he brought the letter
to the king of Israel, saying, And now when this letter is come unto
thee, behold, I have sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest
7 recover him of his leprosy. And it came to pass, when the king of
Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God,
to kill and to make alive, that this man doth send unto me to
recover a man of his leprosy? but consider, I pray you, and see how he
8 seeketh [9]a quarrel against me. And it was so, when Elisha the man of

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[1] Heb. *evil thing.*
[2] Or, *the husk thereof*
[3] Or, *minister*
[4] Heb. *before.*
[5] Heb. *salvation.*
[6] Heb. *was before.*
[7] Or, *he*
[8] Or, shekels
[9] Or, *an occasion*

God heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to
the king, saying, Wherefore hast thou rent thy clothes? let him come
9 now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel. So
Naaman came with his horses and with his chariots, and stood at the
10 door of the house of Elisha. And Elisha sent a messenger unto him,
saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come
11 again to thee, and [1]thou shalt be clean. But Naaman was wroth, and
went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to
me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave
12 his hand over the place, and recover the leper. Are not [2]Abanah
and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of
Israel? may I not wash in them, and be clean? So he turned and
13 went away in a rage. And his servants came near, and spake unto
him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great
thing, wouldest thou not have done it? how much rather then, when he
14 saith to thee, Wash, and be clean? Then went he down, and dipped
himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of
God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and
15 he was clean. And he returned to the man of God, he and all his
company, and came, and stood before him: and he said, Behold now,
I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel: now there-
16 fore, I pray thee, take a [3]present of thy servant. But he said, As the
LORD liveth, before whom I stand, I will receive none. And he urged
17 him to take it; but he refused. And Naaman said, If not, yet I pray
thee let there be given to thy servant two mules' burden of earth; for
thy servant will henceforth offer neither burnt offering nor sacrifice unto
18 other gods, but unto the LORD. In this thing the LORD pardon thy
servant; when my master goeth into the house of Rimmon to worship
there, and he leaneth on my hand, and I bow myself in the house of
Rimmon, when I bow myself in the house of Rimmon, the LORD
19 pardon thy servant in this thing. And he said unto him, Go in peace.
So he departed from him [4]a little way.
20 But Gehazi, the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, Behold, my
master hath spared this Naaman the Syrian, in not receiving at his
hands that which he brought: as the LORD liveth, I will run after him,
21 and take somewhat of him. So Gehazi followed after Naaman. And
when Naaman saw one running after him, he lighted down from the
22 chariot to meet him, and said, Is all well? And he said, All is well.
My master hath sent me, saying, Behold, even now there be come to
me from the hill country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the
prophets; give them, I pray thee, a talent of silver, and two changes of
23 raiment. And Naaman said, Be content, take two talents. And he
urged him, and bound two talents of silver in two bags, with two
changes of raiment, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they
24 bare them before him. And when he came to the [5]hill, he took them
from their hand, and bestowed them in the house: and he let the men

[1] Heb. *be thou clean.*
[2] Another reading is, *Amanah.*
[3] Heb. *blessing.*
[4] Or, *some way*
[5] Heb. *Ophel.*

25 go, and they departed. But he went in, and stood before his master.
And Elisha said unto him, Whence comest thou, Gehazi? And he
26 said, Thy servant went no whither. And he said unto him, [1]Went not
mine heart *with thee*, when the man turned again from his chariot to
meet thee? Is it a time to receive money, and to receive garments,
and oliveyards and vineyards, and sheep and oxen, and menservants
27 and maidservants? The leprosy therefore of Naaman shall cleave unto
thee, and unto thy seed for ever. And he went out from his presence a
leper *as white* as snow.

Elisha and the borrowed Axe.

6 And the sons of the prophets said unto Elisha, Behold now, the
2 place where we dwell before thee is too strait for us. Let us go, we
pray thee, unto Jordan, and take thence every man a beam, and let us
make us a place there, where we may dwell. And he answered, Go ye.
3 And one said, Be content, I pray thee, and go with thy servants. And
4 he answered, I will go. So he went with them. And when they came
5 to Jordan, they cut down wood. But as one was felling a beam, the
axe-head fell into the water: and he cried, and said, Alas, my master!
6 for it was borrowed. And the man of God said, Where fell it? And
he shewed him the place. And he cut down a stick, and cast it in
7 thither, and [2]made the iron to swim. And he said, Take it up to thee.
So he put out his hand, and took it.

Elisha and the Syrian Army.

8 Now the king of Syria warred against Israel; and he took counsel
with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my [3]camp.
9 And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that
thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are coming down.
10 And the king of Israel sent to the place which the man of God told
him and warned him of; and he saved himself there, not once nor
11 twice. And the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this
thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew
12 me which of us is for the king of Israel? And one of his servants said,
Nay, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth
the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.
13 And he said, Go and see where he is, that I may send and fetch him.
14 And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan. Therefore sent
he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by
15 night, and compassed the city about. And when the [4]servant of the
man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host with
horses and chariots was round about the city. And his servant said
16 unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? And he answered, Fear
not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.

[1] Or, *Mine heart went not* from me, *when &c.*
[2] Or, *the iron did swim*
[3] Or, *encamping*
[4] Or, *minister*

17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he
may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he
saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire
18 round about Elisha. And when they came down to him, Elisha prayed
unto the LORD, and said, Smite this [1]people, I pray thee, with blind-
ness. And he smote them with blindness according to the word of
19 Elisha. And Elisha said unto them, This is not the way, neither is this
the city: follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom ye seek.
20 And he led them to Samaria. And it came to pass, when they were
come into Samaria, that Elisha said, LORD, open the eyes of these men,
that they may see. And the LORD opened their eyes, and they saw;
21 and, behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. And the king of Israel
said unto Elisha, when he saw them, My father, shall I smite them?
22 shall I smite them? And he answered, Thou shalt not smite them:
wouldest thou smite those whom thou hast taken captive with thy
sword and with thy bow? set bread and water before them, that they
23 may eat and drink, and go to their master. And he prepared great
provision for them: and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them
away, and they went to their master. And the bands of Syria came no
more into the land of Israel.

Siege of Samaria by Ben-hadad.

24 And it came to pass after this, that Ben-hadad king of Syria gathered
25 all his host, and went up, and besieged Samaria. And there was a
great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it, until an ass's
head was sold for fourscore [2]*pieces* of silver, and the fourth part of a kab of
26 dove's dung for five [2]*pieces* of silver. And as the king of Israel was
passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help,
27 my lord, O king. And he said, [3]If the LORD do not help thee, whence
shall I help thee? out of the threshing-floor, or out of the winepress?
28 And the king said unto her, What aileth thee? And she answered,
This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to-day,
29 and we will eat my son to-morrow. So we boiled my son, and did eat
him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may
30 eat him: and she hath hid her son. And it came to pass, when the
king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; (now he
was passing by upon the wall;) and the people looked, and, behold, he
31 had sackcloth within upon his flesh. Then he said, God do so to me,
and more also, if the head of Elisha the son of Shaphat shall stand on
32 him this day. But Elisha sat in his house, and the elders sat with him;
and *the king* sent a man from before him: but ere the messenger came
to him, he said to the elders, See ye how this son of a murderer hath
sent to take away mine head? look, when the messenger cometh, shut
the door, and [4]hold the door fast against him: is not the sound of his
33 master's feet behind him? And while he yet talked with them, behold,
the messenger came down unto him: and he said, Behold, this evil is

[1] Heb. *nation.*
[2] Or, shekels
[3] Or, *Nay, let the* LORD *help thee!*
[4] Heb. *thrust him back with the door.*

7 of the LORD; why should I wait for the LORD any longer? And
Elisha said, Hear ye the word of the LORD: thus saith the LORD,
To-morrow about this time shall a [1]measure of fine flour be *sold* for a
shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, in the gate of Samaria.
2 Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned answered the man of
God, and said, Behold, if the LORD should make windows in heaven,
might this thing be? And he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine
eyes, but shalt not eat thereof.
3 Now there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and
4 they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die? If we say, We
will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die
there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and
let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall
5 live; and if they kill us, we shall but die. And they rose up in the
twilight, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come
to the outermost part of the camp of the Syrians, behold, there was no
6 man there. For the LORD had made the host of the Syrians to hear a
noise of chariots, and a noise of horses, even the noise of a great host:
and they said one to another, Lo, the king of Israel hath hired against
us the kings of the Hittites, and the kings of the Egyptians, to come
7 upon us. Wherefore they arose and fled in the twilight, and left their
tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and
8 fled for their life. And when these lepers came to the outermost part
of the camp, they went into one tent, and did eat and drink, and carried
thence silver, and gold, and raiment, and went and hid it; and they
came back, and entered into another tent, and carried thence also, and
9 went and hid it. Then they said one to another, We do not well: this
day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the
morning light, [2]punishment will overtake us: now therefore come, let
10 us go and tell the king's household. So they came and called unto
the [3]porter of the city: and they told them, saying, We came to the
camp of the Syrians, and, behold, there was no man there, neither voice
of man, but the horses tied, and the asses tied, and the tents as they
11 were. And [4]he called the porters; and they told it to the king's house-
12 hold within. And the king arose in the night, and said unto his
servants, I will now shew you what the Syrians have done to us. They
know that we be hungry; therefore are they gone out of the camp to
hide themselves in the field, saying, When they come out of the city,
13 we shall take them alive, and get into the city. And one of his servants
answered and said, Let some take, I pray thee, five of the horses that
remain, which are left [5]in the city, (behold, they are as all the multitude
of Israel that are left in it; behold, they are as all the multitude of
14 Israel that are consumed:) and let us send and see. They took there-
fore two chariots with horses; and the king sent after the host of the
15 Syrians, saying, Go and see. And they went after them unto Jordan:
and, lo, all the way was full of garments and vessels, which the Syrians

[1] Heb. *seah.*
[2] Or, *our iniquity will find us out*
[3] Or, *porters*
[4] Or, *the porters called*
[5] Heb. *in it.*

had cast away in their haste. And the messengers returned, and told
16 the king. And the people went out, and spoiled the camp of the
Syrians. So a measure of fine flour was *sold* for a shekel, and two
measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD.
17 And the king appointed the captain on whose hand he leaned to have
the charge of the gate: and the people trode upon him in the gate, and
he died as the man of God had said, who spake when the king came
18 down to him. And it came to pass, as the man of God had spoken to
the king, saying, Two measures of barley for a shekel, and a measure of
fine flour for a shekel, shall be to-morrow about this time in the gate of
19 Samaria; and that captain answered the man of God, and said, Now,
behold, if the LORD should make windows in heaven, might such a
thing be? and he said, Behold, thou shalt see it with thine eyes, but
20 shalt not eat thereof: it came to pass even so unto him; for the people
trode upon him in the gate, and he died.

The Return of the Shunammite.

8 Now Elisha had spoken unto the woman, whose son he had restored to
life, saying, Arise, and go thou and thine household, and sojourn where-
soever thou canst sojourn: for the LORD hath called for a famine; and
2 it shall also come upon the land seven years. And the woman arose,
and did according to the word of the man of God: and she went with
her household, and sojourned in the land of the Philistines seven years.
3 And it came to pass at the seven years' end, that the woman returned
out of the land of the Philistines: and she went forth to cry unto the
4 king for her house and for her land. Now the king was talking with
Gehazi the servant of the man of God, saying, Tell me, I pray thee, all
5 the great things that Elisha hath done. And it came to pass, as he was
telling the king how he had restored to life him that was dead, that,
behold, the woman, whose son he had restored to life, cried to the king
for her house and for her land. And Gehazi said, My lord, O king,
this is the woman, and this is her son, whom Elisha restored to life.
6 And when the king asked the woman, she told him. So the king
appointed unto her a certain [1]officer, saying, Restore all that was hers,
and all the fruits of the field since the day that she left the land, even
until now.

Elisha executes Elijah's Commission to Hazael of Syria.

7 And Elisha came to Damascus; and Ben-hadad the king of Syria was
sick; and it was told him, saying, The man of God is come hither.
8 And the king said unto Hazael, Take a present in thine hand, and go
meet the man of God, and inquire of the LORD by him, saying, Shall I
9 recover of this sickness? So Hazael went to meet him, and took a
present [2]with him, [3]even of every good thing of Damascus, forty
camels' burden, and came and stood before him, and said, Thy son
Ben-hadad king of Syria hath sent me to thee, saying, Shall I recover

[1] Or, *eunuch* [2] Heb. *in his hand.* [3] Or, *and*

10 of this sickness? And Elisha said unto him, Go, [1]say unto him, Thou shalt surely recover; howbeit the LORD hath shewed me that he shall
11 surely die. And he settled his countenance stedfastly *upon him*, until
12 he was ashamed: and the man of God wept. And Hazael said, Why weepeth my lord? And he answered, Because I know the evil that thou wilt do unto the children of Israel: their strong holds wilt thou set on fire, and their young men wilt thou slay with the sword, and wilt
13 dash in pieces their little ones, and rip up their women with child. And Hazael said, But what is thy servant, which is but a dog, that he should do this great thing? And Elisha answered, The LORD hath shewed me
14 that thou shalt be king over Syria. Then he departed from Elisha, and came to his master; who said to him, What said Elisha to thee?
15 And he answered, He told me that thou shouldest surely recover. And it came to pass on the morrow, that he took the coverlet, and dipped it in water, and spread it on his face, so that he died: and **Hazael** reigned in his stead.

The Revolt of Edom and Libnah.

2 Kings 8. 16.

16 And in the fifth year of **Joram** the son of Ahab king of Israel, [2]Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah, **Jehoram** the son of Jehoshaphat king of Judah began to reign.

17 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years in Jeru-
18 salem. And he walked in the

2 Chronicles 21. 1.

21 And **Jehoshaphat** slept with his fathers, and was buried with his fathers in the city of David: and **Jehoram** his son reigned in
2 his stead. And he had brethren the sons of Jehoshaphat, Azariah, and Jehiel, and Zechariah, and Azariah, and Michael, and Shephatiah: all these were the sons of Jehoshaphat king of Israel.
3 And their father gave them great gifts, of silver, and of gold, and of precious things, with fenced cities in Judah: but the kingdom gave he to Jehoram, because he
4 was the firstborn. Now when Jehoram was risen up over the kingdom of his father, and had strengthened himself, he slew all his brethren with the sword, and divers also of the princes of
5 Israel. Jehoram was thirty and two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eight years
6 in Jerusalem. And he walked in

[1] According to another reading, *say, Thou shalt not recover: for the LORD &c.*

[2] Some ancient authorities omit the words *Jehoshaphat being then king of Judah.*

way of the kings of Israel, as
did the house of Ahab: for
he had [1]the daughter of Ahab to
wife: and he did that which was
evil in the sight of the LORD.
19 Howbeit the LORD would not
destroy Judah, for David his
servant's sake, as he promised
him to give unto him a lamp
20 [2]for his children alway. In his
days Edom revolted from under
the hand of Judah, and made a
21 king over themselves. Then
Joram passed over to Zair, and
all his chariots with him: and he
rose up by night, and smote the
Edomites which compassed him
about, and the captains of the
chariots: and the people fled to
22 their tents. So Edom revolted
from under the hand of Judah,
unto this day. Then did Libnah
23 revolt at the same time. And
the rest of the acts of Joram, and
all that he did, are they not writ-
ten in the book of the chronicles
24 of the kings of Judah? And
Joram slept with his fathers, and
was buried with his fathers in the
city of David: and **Ahaziah**
his son reigned in his stead.

the way of the kings of Israel, as
did the house of Ahab: for he
had the daughter of Ahab to
wife: and he did that which was
evil in the sight of the LORD.
7 Howbeit the LORD would not
destroy the house of David, be-
cause of the covenant that he
had made with David, and as he
promised to give a lamp to him
8 and to his children alway. In
his days Edom revolted from
under the hand of Judah, and
made a king over themselves.
9 Then **Jehoram** passed over with
his captains, and all his chariots
with him: and he rose up by
night, and smote the Edomites
which compassed him about, and
10 the captains of the chariots. So
Edom revolted from under the
hand of Judah, unto this day:
then did Libnah revolt at the
same time from under his hand:
because he had forsaken the
LORD, the God of his fathers.

2 Chronicles 21. 11.

The evil ways of Jehoram.

11 Moreover he made high places in the [3]mountains of Judah, and made
the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, and [4]led Judah astray.
12 And there came a writing to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus
saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, Because thou hast not
walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat thy father, nor in the ways of Asa
13 king of Judah; but hast walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and
hast made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to go a whoring, like
as the house of Ahab [5]did; and also hast slain thy brethren of thy
14 father's house, which were better than thyself: behold, the LORD will
smite with a great [6]plague thy people, and thy children, and thy wives,
15 and all thy substance: and thou shalt have great sickness by disease of

[1] See ver. 26.
[2] Another reading is, *and to his children.*
[3] According to some ancient authorities, *cities.*
[4] Or, *compelled Judah thereto*
[5] Heb. *made to go a whoring.*
[6] Heb. *stroke.*

thy bowels, until thy bowels fall out by reason of the sickness, [1]day by
16 day. And the LORD stirred up against **Jehoram** the spirit of the
Philistines, and of the Arabians which are beside the Ethiopians:
17 and they came up against Judah, and brake into it, and carried away
all the substance that was found [2]in the king's house, and his sons
also, and his wives; so that there was never a son left him, save
18 [3]Jehoahaz, the youngest of his sons. And after all this the LORD
19 smote him in his bowels with an incurable disease. And it came to
pass, in process of time, at the end of two years, that his bowels
fell out by reason of his sickness, and he died of sore diseases. And
his people made no burning for him, like the burning of his fathers.
20 Thirty and two years old was he when he began to reign, and he
reigned in Jerusalem eight years: and he departed without being
desired; and they buried him in the city of David, but not in the
sepulchres of the kings.

Ahaziah's Alliance with Joram against Syria.

2 Kings 8. 25.

25 In the twelfth year of Joram the son of Ahab king of Israel did **Ahaziah** the son of Jehoram king of Judah begin to reign.

26 Two and twenty years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah the [4]daughter
27 of Omri king of Israel. And he walked in the way of the house of Ahab, and did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did the house of Ahab: for he was the son in law of the house
28 of Ahab. And he went with **Joram** the son of Ahab to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramoth-gilead: and the Syrians
29 wounded Joram. And king Joram returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the

2 Chronicles 22. 1.

22 And the inhabitants of Jerusalem made [5]**Ahaziah** his youngest son king in his stead: for the band of men that came with the Arabians to the camp had slain all the eldest. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah reigned.

2 Forty and two years old was Ahaziah when he began to reign; and he reigned one year in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Athaliah the [6]daughter of
3 Omri. He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab: for his mother was his counsellor to
4 do wickedly. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did the house of Ahab: for they were his counsellors after the death of his father, to his
5 destruction. He walked also after their counsel, and went with **Jehoram** the son of Ahab king of Israel to war against Hazael king of Syria at Ramoth-

[1] Or, *year after year*
[2] Or, *belonging to*
[3] In ch. xxii. 1, *Ahaziah.*
[4] Or, *grand-daughter* See ver. 18.
[5] In ch. xxi. 17, *Jehoahaz.*
[6] Or, *grand-daughter*

Syrians had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And **Ahaziah** the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see **Joram** the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

gilead: and the Syrians wounded
6 **Joram**. And he returned to be healed in Jezreel [1] of the wounds which they had given him at Ramah, when he fought against Hazael king of Syria. And [2] **Azariah** the son of Jehoram king of Judah went down to see Jehoram the son of Ahab in Jezreel, because he was sick.

2 Kings 9. 1.

Elisha executes Elijah's Commission to Jehu the son of Nimshi.

9 And Elisha the prophet called one of the sons of the prophets, and said unto him, Gird up thy loins, and take this vial of oil in thine hand,
2 and go to Ramoth-gilead. And when thou comest thither, look out there **Jehu** the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and carry him to an inner
3 chamber. Then take the vial of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then
4 open the door, and flee, and tarry not. So the young man, even the
5 young man the prophet, went to Ramoth-gilead. And when he came, behold, the captains of the host were sitting; and he said, I have an errand to thee, O captain. And Jehu said, Unto which of all us? And
6 he said, To thee, O captain. And he arose, and went into the house; and he poured the oil on his head, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, I have anointed thee king over the people
7 of the LORD, even over Israel. And thou shalt smite the house of Ahab thy master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD, at the hand of
8 Jezebel. For the whole house of Ahab shall perish: and I will cut off from Ahab every man child, and him that is shut up and him that is
9 left at large in Israel. And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the
10 son of Ahijah. And the dogs shall eat Jezebel in the portion of Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her. And he opened the door, and
11 fled. Then Jehu came forth to the servants of his lord: and one said unto him, Is all well? wherefore came this mad fellow to thee? And
12 he said unto them, Ye know the man and what his talk was. And they said, It is false; tell us now. And he said, Thus and thus spake he to me, saying, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over
13 Israel. Then they hasted, and took every man his garment, and put it under him [3] on the top of the stairs, and blew the trumpet, saying,

[1] So in 2 Kings viii. 29, and in the Sept. and Syriac versions. The text has, *because the wounds which &c.*

[2] In ver. 1, *Ahaziah.*

[3] Or, *on the bare steps*

14 **Jehu** is king. So Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi
conspired against **Joram**. (Now Joram kept Ramoth-gilead, he and
15 all Israel, because of Hazael king of Syria: but king [1]Joram was
returned to be healed in Jezreel of the wounds which the Syrians had
given him, when he fought with Hazael king of Syria.) And Jehu said,
If this be your mind, then let none escape and go forth out of the city,
16 to go to tell it in Jezreel. So Jehu rode in a chariot, and went to
Jezreel; for Joram lay there.

2 Kings 9. 16.

Jehu kills Joram, Ahaziah, and Jezebel, and becomes King of Israel.

And **Ahaziah** king of Judah
was come down to see Joram.
17 Now the watchman stood on the
tower in Jezreel, and he spied
the company of Jehu as he
came, and said, I see a company.
And Joram said, Take an horse-
man, and send to meet them,
and let him say, [2]Is it peace?
18 So there went one on horseback
to meet him, and said, Thus saith
the king, Is it peace? And Jehu
said, What hast thou to do with
peace? turn thee behind me.
And the watchman told, saying,
The messenger came to them,
19 but he cometh not again. Then
he sent out a second on horse-
back, which came to them, and
said, Thus saith the king, Is it
peace? And Jehu answered,
What hast thou to do with
peace? turn thee behind me.
20 And the watchman told, saying,
He came even unto them, and
cometh not again: and the
driving is like the driving of
Jehu the son of Nimshi; for he
21 driveth furiously. And Joram
said, [3]Make ready. And they
made ready his chariot. And Jo-
ram king of Israel and Ahaziah

[1] Heb. *Jehoram*, and in vv. 17, 21, 22, 23, 24.
[2] Or, *Is all well?* [3] Or, *Yoke*

king of Judah went out, each in
his chariot, and they went out to
meet **Jehu**, and found him in
the portion of Naboth the Jez-
22 reelite. And it came to pass,
when **Joram** saw Jehu, that he
said, Is it peace, Jehu? And he
answered, What peace, so long
as the whoredoms of thy mother
Jezebel and her witchcrafts are
23 so many? And Joram turned
his hands, and fled, and said to
Ahaziah, There is treachery, O
24 Ahaziah. And Jehu [1]drew his
bow with his full strength, and
smote Joram between his arms,
and the arrow went out at his
heart, and he sunk down in his
25 chariot. Then said *Jehu* to Bid-
kar his captain, Take up, and
cast him in the portion of the
field of Naboth the Jezreelite:
for remember how that, when I
and thou rode together after
Ahab his father, the LORD [2]laid
26 this burden upon him; Surely I
have seen yesterday the blood of
Naboth, and the blood of his
sons, saith the LORD; and I will
requite thee in this [3]plat, saith
the LORD. Now therefore take
and cast him into the plat *of*
ground, according to the word of
27 the LORD. But when Ahaziah
the king of Judah saw this, he
fled by the way of the garden
house. And Jehu followed after
him, and said, Smite him also in
the chariot: *and they smote him*
at the ascent of Gur, which is by
Ibleam. And he fled to Megid-
28 do, and died there. And his
servants carried him in a chariot
to Jerusalem, and buried him in
his sepulchre with his fathers in
the city of David.

[1] Heb. *filled his hand with the bow.*
[2] Or, *uttered this oracle against him*
[3] Or, *portion*

7 Now the [1]destruction of **Aha-**
ziah was of God, in that he went
unto **Joram**: for when he was
come, he went out with Jehoram
against **Jehu** the son of Nimshi,
whom the LORD had anointed to
8 cut off the house of Ahab. And
it came to pass, when Jehu was
executing judgement upon the
house of Ahab, that he found the
princes of Judah, and the sons
of the brethren of Ahaziah,
ministering to Ahaziah, and slew
them.

9 And he sought Ahaziah, and
they caught him, (now he was
hiding in Samaria,) and they
brought him to Jehu, and slew
him; and they buried him, for
they said, He is the son of Jeho-
shaphat, who sought the LORD
with all his heart. [2]And the
house of Ahaziah had no power
to hold the kingdom.

[1] Heb. *treading down.*
[2] Or, *And there was none of the house of Ahaziah that had power &c.*

29 And in the eleventh year of **Joram** the son of Ahab began
Ahaziah to reign over Judah.
30 And when **Jehu** was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she
painted her eyes, and tired her head, and looked out at the window.
31 And as Jehu entered in at the gate, she said, [1]Is it peace, thou Zimri,
32 thy master's murderer? And he lifted up his face to the window, and
said, Who is on my side? who? And there looked out to him two or
33 three eunuchs. And he said, Throw her down. So they threw her
down: and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall, and on the
34 horses: and he trode her under foot. And when he was come in, he
did eat and drink; and he said, See now to this cursed woman, and
35 bury her: for she is a king's daughter. And they went to bury her:
but they found no more of her than the skull, and the feet, and the
36 palms of her hands. Wherefore they came again, and told him. And
he said, This is the word of the LORD, which he spake by his servant
Elijah the Tishbite, saying, In the portion of Jezreel shall the dogs eat
37 the flesh of Jezebel; and the carcase of Jezebel shall be as dung upon
the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel; so that they shall not say,
This is Jezebel.

Jehu destroys the rest of Ahab's House.

10 Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria. And Jehu wrote letters,
and sent to Samaria, unto the rulers of Jezreel, even the elders, and
2 unto them that brought up *the sons of* Ahab, saying, And now as soon
as this letter cometh to you, seeing your master's sons are with you, and
there are with you chariots and horses, a fenced city also, and armour;
3 look ye out the best and meetest of your master's sons, and set him on
4 his father's throne, and fight for your master's house. But they were
exceedingly afraid, and said, Behold, the two kings stood not before
5 him: how then shall we stand? And he that was over the household,
and he that was over the city, the elders also, and they that brought up
the children, sent to Jehu, saying, We are thy servants, and will do all
that thou shalt bid us; we will not make any man king: do thou that
6 which is good in thine eyes. Then he wrote a letter the second time
to them, saying, If ye be on my side, and if ye will hearken unto my
voice, take ye the heads of the men your master's sons, and come to me
to Jezreel by to-morrow this time. Now the king's sons, being seventy
persons, were with the great men of the city, which brought them up.
7 And it came to pass, when the letter came to them, that they took the
king's sons, and slew them, even seventy persons, and put their heads
8 in baskets, and sent them unto him to Jezreel. And there came a
messenger, and told him, saying, They have brought the heads of the
king's sons. And he said, Lay ye them in two heaps at the entering in
9 of the gate until the morning. And it came to pass in the morning,
that he went out, and stood, and said to all the people, Ye be righteous:

[1] Or, *Is it well*

behold, I conspired against my master, and slew him: but who smote
10 all these? Know now that there shall fall unto the earth nothing of
the word of the LORD, which the LORD spake concerning the house of
Ahab: for the LORD hath done that which he spake by his servant
11 Elijah. So **Jehu** smote all that remained of the house of Ahab in
Jezreel, and all his great men, and his familiar friends, and his priests,
12 until he left him none remaining. And he arose and departed, and
went to Samaria. And as he was at the [1]shearing house of the shep-
13 herds in the way, Jehu met with the brethren of Ahaziah king of
Judah, and said, Who are ye? And they answered, We are the brethren
of Ahaziah: and we go down to salute the children of the king and the
14 children of the queen. And he said, Take them alive. And they took
them alive, and slew them at the [2]pit of the [1]shearing house, even two
and forty men; neither left he any of them.

Jehu destroys the Worshippers of the Tyrian Baal.

15 And when he was departed thence, he lighted on Jehonadab the son
of Rechab coming to meet him: and he saluted him, and said to him,
Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart? And Jehonadab
answered, It is. If it be, give me thine hand. And he gave him his
16 hand, and he took him up to him into the chariot. And he said, Come
with me, and see my zeal for the LORD. So they made him ride in his
17 chariot. And when he came to Samaria, he smote all that remained
unto Ahab in Samaria, till he had destroyed him, according to the word
18 of the LORD, which he spake to Elijah. And Jehu gathered all the
people together, and said unto them, Ahab served Baal a little; but
19 Jehu shall serve him much. Now therefore call unto me all the prophets
of Baal, all his worshippers, and all his priests; let none be wanting:
for I have a great sacrifice *to do* to Baal; whosoever shall be wanting,
he shall not live. But Jehu did it in subtilty, to the intent that he
20 might destroy the worshippers of Baal. And Jehu said, Sanctify a
21 solemn assembly for Baal. And they proclaimed it. And Jehu sent
through all Israel: and all the worshippers of Baal came, so that there
was not a man left that came not. And they came into the house of
22 Baal; and the house of Baal was filled from one end to another. And
he said unto him that was over the vestry, Bring forth vestments for all
23 the worshippers of Baal. And he brought them forth vestments. And
Jehu went, and Jehonadab the son of Rechab, into the house of Baal;
and he said unto the worshippers of Baal, Search, and look that there
be here with you none of the servants of the LORD, but the worshippers
24 of Baal only. And they went in to offer sacrifices and burnt offerings.
Now Jehu had appointed him fourscore men without, and said, If any
of the men whom I bring into your hands escape, *he that letteth him go,*
25 his life shall be for the life of him. And it came to pass, as soon as he
had made an end of offering the burnt offering, that Jehu said to the
[3]guard and to the captains, Go in, and slay them; let none come forth.

[1] Or, *house of gathering* [2] Or, *cistern* [3] Heb. *runners.*

And they smote them with the edge of the sword; and the guard and
the captains cast them out, and went to the city of the house of Baal.
26 And they brought forth the [1]pillars that were in the house of Baal, and
27 burned them. And they brake down the pillar of Baal, and brake down
28 the house of Baal, and made it a draught house, unto this day. Thus
29 Jehu destroyed Baal out of Israel. Howbeit from the sins of Jeroboam
the son of Nebat, [2]wherewith he made Israel to sin, **Jehu** departed not
from after them, *to wit*, the golden calves that were in Beth-el, and that
30 were in Dan. And the LORD said unto Jehu, Because thou hast [3]done
well in executing that which is right in mine eyes, *and* hast done unto
the house of Ahab according to all that was in mine heart, thy sons of
31 the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel. But Jehu took
no heed to walk in the law of the LORD, the God of Israel, with all his
heart: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam, wherewith he made
Israel to sin.

Conquest of Gilead by Hazael, King of Syria.

32 In those days the LORD began to cut Israel short: and Hazael smote
33 them in all the coasts of Israel; from Jordan eastward, all the land of
Gilead, the Gadites, and the Reubenites, and the Manassites, from
34 Aroer, which is by the valley of Arnon, even Gilead and Bashan. Now
the rest of the acts of Jehu, and all that he did, and all his might, are
they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
35 And Jehu slept with his fathers: and they buried him in Samaria.
36 And **Jehoahaz** his son reigned in his stead. And the time that Jehu
reigned over Israel in Samaria was twenty and eight years.

Athaliah's Usurpation.

2 Kings 11. 1.

11 Now when Athaliah the mother
of Ahaziah saw that her son was
dead, she arose and destroyed all
2 the seed royal. But Jehosheba,
the daughter of king Joram, sister
of Ahaziah, took **Joash** the son
of Ahaziah, and stole him away
from among the king's sons that
were slain, even him and his
nurse, [4]*and put them* in the [5]bed-
chamber; and they hid him from

[1] Or, *obelisks*
[2] Or, *who*
[3] Or, *executed well*
[4] Or, who were
[5] Or, *chamber for the beds*

2 Chronicles 22. 10.

10 Now when Athaliah the mother
of Ahaziah saw that her son was
dead, she arose and destroyed
all the seed royal of the house of
11 Judah. But Jehoshabeath, the
daughter of the king, took **Joash**
the son of Ahaziah, and stole
him away from among the king's
sons that were slain, and put him
and his nurse in the [1]bedchamber.
So Jehoshabeath, the daughter
of king Jehoram, the wife of
Jehoiada the priest, (for she was
the sister of Ahaziah,) hid him

[1] Or, *chamber for the beds*

Athaliah, so that he was not
3 slain. And he was with her hid
in the house of the LORD six
years: and Athaliah reigned over
the land.

from Athaliah, so that she slew
12 him not. And he was with them
hid in the house of God six years:
and Athaliah reigned over the
land.

Overthrow of Athaliah by Jehoiada.

4 And in the seventh year Je-
hoiada sent and fetched the
captains over hundreds, of the
[1]Carites and of the [2]guard, and
brought them to him into the
house of the LORD; and he made
a covenant with them, and took
an oath of them in the house of
the LORD, and shewed them the
5 king's son. And he commanded
them, saying, This is the thing
that ye shall do: a third part of
you, that come in on the sabbath,
shall be keepers of the watch of
6 the king's house; and a third
part shall be at the gate Sur;
and a third part at the gate be-
hind the guard: so shall ye keep
the watch of the house, and be a
7 barrier. And the two companies
of you, even all that go forth on
the sabbath, shall keep the watch
of the house of the LORD about
8 the king. And ye shall compass
the king round about, every man
with his weapons in his hand;
and he that cometh within the
ranks, let him be slain: and be
ye with the king when he goeth
out, and when he cometh in.
9 And the captains over hundreds
did according to all that Jehoiada
the priest commanded: and they
took every man his men, those
that were to come in on the
sabbath, with those that were to
go out on the sabbath, and came
to Jehoiada the priest.

23 And in the seventh year Je-
hoiada strengthened himself, and
took the captains of hundreds,
Azariah the son of Jeroham, and
Ishmael the son of Jehohanan,
and Azariah the son of Obed,
and Maaseiah the son of Adaiah,
and Elishaphat the son of Zichri,
2 into covenant with him. And
they went about in Judah, and
gathered the Levites out of all
the cities of Judah, and the heads
of fathers' *houses* of Israel, and
3 they came to Jerusalem. And
all the congregation made a co-
venant with the king in the house
of God. And he said unto them,
Behold, the king's son shall reign,
as the LORD hath spoken con-
4 cerning the sons of David. This
is the thing that ye shall do: [1]a
third part of you, that come in
on the sabbath, of the priests
and of the Levites, shall be
5 porters of the [2]doors; and a third
part shall be at the king's house;
and a third part at the gate of
the foundation: and all the people
shall be in the courts of the house
6 of the LORD. But let none come
into the house of the LORD, save
the priests, and they that minister
of the Levites; they shall come
in, for they are holy: but all the
people shall keep the watch of
7 the LORD. And the Levites shall
compass the king round about,
every man with his weapons in

[1] Or, *executioners*
[2] Heb. *runners.*

[1] See 1 Chr. xxiv. 4.
[2] Heb. *thresholds.*

10 And the priest delivered to
the captains over hundreds the
spears and shields that had been
king David's, which were in the
11 house of the LORD. And the
guard stood, every man with his
weapons in his hand, from the
right [1]side of the house to the
left side of the house, along by
the altar and the house, by the
12 king round about. Then he
brought out the king's son, and
[2]put the crown upon him, and
gave him the testimony; and they
made him king, and anointed
him; and they clapped their
hands, and said, [3]God save the
13 king. And when Athaliah heard
the noise of the guard *and of*
the people, she came to the
people into the house of the
14 LORD: and she looked, and,
behold, the king stood [4]by the
pillar, as the manner was, and the
captains and the trumpets by
the king; and all the people of
the land rejoiced, and blew with
trumpets. Then Athaliah rent
her clothes, and cried, Treason,
15 treason. And Jehoiada the
priest commanded the captains
of hundreds that were set over

[1] Heb. *shoulder.*
[2] Or, *put upon him the crown and the testimony*
[3] Heb. *Let the king live.*
[4] Or, *on the platform*

his hand; and whosoever cometh
into the house, let him be slain:
and be ye with the king when he
cometh in, and when he goeth
8 out. So the Levites and all Ju-
dah did according to all that
Jehoiada the priest commanded:
and they took every man his
men, those that were to come in
on the sabbath, with those that
were to go out on the sabbath;
for Jehoiada the priest dismissed
9 not the courses. And Jehoiada
the priest delivered to the cap-
tains of hundreds the spears, and
bucklers, and shields, that had
been king David's, which were
10 in the house of God. And he
set all the people, every man
with his weapon in his hand,
from the right [1]side of the house
to the left side of the house,
along by the altar and the house,
11 by the king round about. Then
they brought out the king's son,
and [2]put the crown upon him,
and *gave him* the testimony, and
made him king: and Jehoiada
and his sons anointed him; and
they said, [3]God save the king.
12 And when Athaliah heard the
noise [4]of the people running and
praising the king, she came to
the people into the house of the
13 LORD: and she looked, and, be-
hold, the king stood by his pillar
at the entrance, and the captains
and the trumpets by the king;
and all the people of the land
rejoiced, and blew with trumpets;
the singers also *played* on instru-
ments of music, and led the sing-
ing of praise. Then Athaliah
rent her clothes, and said, Trea-

[1] Heb. *shoulder.*
[2] Or, *put upon him the crown and the testimony*
[3] Heb. *Let the king live.*
[4] Or, *of the people, of the guard, and of those who praised the king*

the host, and said unto them,
Have her forth between the
ranks; and him that followeth
her slay with the sword: for the
priest said, Let her not be slain
16 in the house of the LORD. So
they made way for her; and she
went by the way of the horses'
entry to the king's house: and
there was she slain.

14 son, treason. And Jehoiada the
priest brought out the captains
of hundreds that were set over
the host, and said unto them,
Have her forth between the
ranks; and whoso followeth her,
let him be slain with the sword:
for the priest said, Slay her not
15 in the house of the LORD. So
they made way for her; and she
went to the entry of the horse
gate to the king's house: and
they slew her there.

Jehoash destroys the House of Baal at Jerusalem.

17 And Jehoiada made a covenant
between the LORD and the king
and the people, that they should
be the LORD's people; between
18 the king also and the people. And
all the people of the land went to
the house of Baal, and brake it
down; his altars and his images
brake they in pieces thoroughly,
and slew Mattan the priest of
Baal before the altars. And the
priest appointed [1]officers over
19 the house of the LORD. And
he took the captains over hun-
dreds, and the Carites, and the
guard, and all the people of the
land; and they brought down the
king from the house of the LORD,
and came by the way of the gate
of the guard unto the king's house.
And he sat on the throne of the
20 kings. So all the people of the
land rejoiced, and the city was
quiet: and they slew Athaliah
with the sword at the king's
house.

16 And Jehoiada made a covenant
between himself, and all the
people, and the king, that they
should be the LORD's people.
17 And all the people went to the
house of Baal, and brake it down,
and brake his altars and his
images in pieces, and slew Mat-
tan the priest of Baal before the
18 altars. And Jehoiada appointed
the officers of the house of the
LORD under the hand of the
priests the Levites, whom David
had distributed in the house of
the LORD, to offer the burnt
offerings of the LORD, as it is
written in the law of Moses, with
rejoicing and with singing, [1]ac-
cording to the order of David.
19 And he set the porters at the
gates of the house of the LORD,
that none which was unclean in
20 any thing should enter in. And
he took the captains of hundreds,
and the nobles, and the governors
of the people, and all the people
of the land, and brought down the
king from the house of the LORD:
and they came through the upper
gate unto the king's house, and
set the king upon the throne of
21 the kingdom. So all the people
of the land rejoiced, and the city

[1] Heb. *offices.*

[1] Heb. *by the hands of David.*

was quiet: and they slew Athaliah with the sword.

Restoration of the Temple.

21 **Jehoash** was seven years old
12 when he began to reign. In the seventh year of Jehu began Jehoash to reign; and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zibiah of
2 Beer-sheba. And Jehoash did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD all his days wherein Jehoiada the priest instructed him.
3 Howbeit the high places were not taken away: the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.
4 And Jehoash said to the priests, All the money of the hallowed things that is brought into the house of the LORD, [1]in current money, [2]the money of the persons for whom each man is rated, and all the money that it cometh into any man's heart to bring into the
5 house of the LORD, let the priests take it to them, every man from his acquaintance: and they shall repair the breaches of the house, wheresoever any breach shall be
6 found. But it was so, that in the three and twentieth year of king Jehoash the priests had not repaired the breaches of the house.
7 Then king Jehoash called for Jehoiada the priest, and for the *other* priests, and said unto them, Why repair ye not the breaches of the house? now therefore take no *more* money from your acquaintance, but deliver it for the
8 breaches of the house. And the priests consented that they

[1] Or, even *the money* of every one *that passeth* the numbering See Ex. xxx. 13.

[2] Heb. *each man the money of the souls of his estimation.* See Lev. xxvii. 2.

24 **Joash** was seven years old when he began to reign; and he reigned forty years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zibiah
2 of Beer-sheba. And Joash did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD all the days of Je-
3 hoiada the priest. And Jehoiada took for him two wives; and he
4 begat sons and daughters. And it came to pass after this, that Joash was minded to restore the
5 house of the LORD. And he gathered together the priests and the Levites, and said to them, Go out unto the cities of Judah, and gather of all Israel money to repair the house of your God from year to year, and see that ye hasten the matter. Howbeit the
6 Levites hastened it not. And the king called for Jehoiada the chief, and said unto him, Why hast thou not required of the Levites to bring in out of Judah and out of Jerusalem the tax of Moses the servant of the LORD, and of the congregation [1]of Israel, for the
7 tent of the testimony? For the sons of Athaliah, that wicked woman, had broken up the house of God; and also all the dedicated things of the house of the LORD did they bestow upon the Baalim.
8 So the king commanded, and they made a chest, and set it without at the gate of the house of the
9 LORD. And they made a proclamation through Judah and Jerusalem, to bring in for the LORD the tax that Moses the servant of God laid upon Israel in the
10 wilderness. And all the princes

[1] Or, *for Israel*

should take no *more* money from
the people, neither repair the
9 breaches of the house. But Je-
hoiada the priest took a chest,
and bored a hole in the lid of it,
and set it beside the altar, on the
right side as one cometh into the
house of the LORD: and the
priests that kept the [1]door put
therein all the money that was
brought into the house of the
10 LORD. And it was so, when they
saw that there was much money
in the chest, that the king's [2]scribe
and the high priest came up, and
they [3]put up in bags and told the
money that was found in the
11 house of the LORD. And they
gave the money that was weighed
out into the hands of them that
did the work, that had the over-
sight of the house of the LORD:
and they [4]paid it out to the car-
penters and the builders, that
wrought upon the house of the
12 LORD, and to the masons and the
hewers of stone, and for buying
timber and hewn stone to repair
the breaches of the house of the
LORD, and for all that [5]was laid
13 out for the house to repair it. But
there were not made for the house
of the LORD cups of silver,
snuffers, basons, trumpets, any
vessels of gold, or vessels of
silver, of the money that was
brought into the house of the
14 LORD: for they gave that to them
that did the work, and repaired
therewith the house of the LORD.
15 Moreover they reckoned not with
the men, into whose hand they
delivered the money to give to
them that did the work: for they

[1] Heb. *threshold.*
[2] Or, *secretary*
[3] Heb. *bound up and &c.*
[4] Heb. *brought it forth.*
[5] Heb. *went forth.*

and all the people rejoiced, and
brought in, and cast into the
chest, until they had made an
11 end. And it was so, that at what
time the chest was brought unto
the king's [1]office [2]by the hand of
the Levites, and when they saw
that there was much money,
the king's [3]scribe and the chief
priest's officer came and emptied
the chest, and took it, and carried
it to its place again. Thus they
did day by day, and gathered
12 money in abundance. And the
king and Jehoiada gave it to
such as did the work of the
service of the house of the
LORD; and they hired masons
and carpenters to restore the
house of the LORD, and also
such as wrought iron and brass
to repair the house of the LORD.
13 So the workmen wrought, and
[4]the work was perfected by them,
and they set up the house of God
[5]in its state, and strengthened it.
14 And when they had made an end,
they brought the rest of the money
before the king and Jehoiada,
whereof were made vessels for
the house of the LORD, even
vessels to minister, and [6]to offer
withal, and spoons, and vessels
of gold and silver. And they
offered burnt offerings in the
house of the LORD continually
all the days of Jehoiada.

[1] Or, *officers*
[2] Or, which was *under the hand*
[3] Or, *secretary*
[4] Heb. *healing went up upon the work.*
[5] Or, *according to the proportion thereof*
[6] Or, *pestles*

16 dealt faithfully. The money for the guilt offerings, and the money for the sin offerings, was not brought into the house of the LORD: it was the priests'.

2 Chronicles 24. 15.

Jehoiada's son stoned.

15 But Jehoiada waxed old and was full of days, and he died; an
16 hundred and thirty years old was he when he died. And they buried him in the city of David among the kings, because he had done good
17 in Israel, and toward God and his house. Now after the death of Jehoiada came the princes of Judah, and made obeisance to the king.
18 Then the king hearkened unto them. And they forsook the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols: and wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this their
19 guiltiness. Yet he sent prophets to them, to bring them again unto the LORD; and they testified against them: but they would not give ear.
20 And the spirit of God [1]came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest; and he stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also
21 forsaken you. And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the
22 LORD. Thus **Joash** the king remembered not the kindness which Jehoiada his father had done to him, but slew his son. And when he died, he said, The LORD look upon it, and require it.

Jehoash attacked by Hazael, King of Syria, and murdered.

2 Kings 12. 17.

17 Then Hazael king of Syria went up, and fought against Gath, and took it: and Hazael set his
18 face to go up to Jerusalem. And Jehoash king of Judah took all the hallowed things that Jehoshaphat, and Jehoram, and Ahaziah, his fathers, kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own hallowed things, and all the gold that was found in the treasures of the house of the LORD, and of the king's house, and sent it to Hazael king of Syria: and he
19 went away from Jerusalem. Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and

2 Chronicles 24. 23.

23 And it came to pass at the [2]end of the year, that the army of the Syrians came up against him: and they came to Judah and Jerusalem, and destroyed all the princes of the people from among the people, and sent all the spoil of them unto the king of Da-
24 mascus. For the army of the Syrians came with a small company of men; and the LORD delivered a very great host into their hand, because they had forsaken the LORD, the God of their fathers. So they executed [3]judge-
25 ment upon Joash. And when

[1] Heb. *clothed itself with.* [2] Heb. *revolution.* [3] Heb. *judgements.*

all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles
20 of the kings of Judah? And his servants arose, and made a conspiracy, and smote **Joash** at the house of Millo, *on the way* that
21 goeth down to Silla. For Jozacar the son of Shimeath, and Jehozabad the son of Shomer, his servants, smote him, and he died; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and **Amaziah** his son reigned in his stead.

they were departed from him, (for they left him in great diseases,) his own servants conspired against him for the blood of the [1]sons of Jehoiada the priest, and slew him on his bed, and he died: and they buried him in the city of David, but they buried him not in the sepulchres of the kings.
26 And these are they that conspired against him; Zabad the son of Shimeath the Ammonitess, and Jehozabad the son of Shimrith
27 the Moabitess. Now concerning his sons, and the greatness of the burdens [2]*laid* upon him, and the [3]rebuilding of the house of God, behold, they are written in the commentary of the book of the kings. And **Amaziah** his son reigned in his stead.

2 Kings 13. 1.

Disastrous Wars of Israel with the Kings of Syria.

13 In the three and twentieth year of Joash the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, **Jehoahaz** the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in
2 Samaria, *and reigned* seventeen years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, wherewith he made Israel to sin; he departed not therefrom.
3 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he delivered them into the hand of Hazael king of Syria, and into the hand of Ben-
4 hadad the son of Hazael, [4]continually. And Jehoahaz besought the LORD, and the LORD hearkened unto him: for he saw the oppression
5 of Israel, how that the king of Syria oppressed them. (And the LORD gave Israel a saviour, so that they went out from under the hand of the Syrians: and the children of Israel dwelt in their tents, as beforetime.
6 Nevertheless they departed not from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, wherewith he made Israel to sin, but [5]walked therein: and there
7 remained the Asherah also in Samaria.) For he left not to Jehoahaz of the people save fifty horsemen, and ten chariots, and ten thousand footmen; for the king of Syria destroyed them, and made them like the
8 dust [6]in threshing. Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz, and all that he did, and his might, are they not written in the book of the chronicles
9 of the kings of Israel? And Jehoahaz slept with his fathers; and they buried him in Samaria: and **Joash** his son reigned in his stead.

[1] The Sept. and Vulgate read, *son*.
[2] Or, uttered *against*
[3] Heb. *founding*.
[4] Heb. *all the days*.
[5] Heb. *he walked*.
[6] Or, *to trample on*

10 In the thirty and seventh year of Joash king of Judah began
Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz to reign over Israel in Samaria, *and*
11 *reigned* sixteen years. And he did that which was evil in the sight
of the LORD; he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam the son
of Nebat, wherewith he made Israel to sin: but he walked therein.
12 Now the rest of the acts of Joash, and all that he did, and his might
wherewith he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not
13 written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? And
Joash slept with his fathers; and **Jeroboam** sat upon his throne:
and Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

Death of Elisha.

14 Now Elisha was fallen sick of his sickness whereof he died: and
Joash the king of Israel came down unto him, and wept over [1]him, and
said, [2]My father, my father, the [3]chariots of Israel and the horsemen
15 thereof! And Elisha said unto him, Take bow and arrows: and he took
16 unto him bow and arrows. And he said to the king of Israel, Put thine
hand upon the bow: and he put his hand *upon it.* And Elisha laid his
17 hands upon the king's hands. And he said, Open the window eastward:
and he opened it. Then Elisha said, Shoot: and he shot. And he
said, The LORD's arrow of [4]victory, even the arrow of [4]victory [5]over
Syria: for thou shalt smite the Syrians in Aphek, till thou have con-
18 sumed them. And he said, Take the arrows: and he took them. And
he said unto the king of Israel, Smite upon the ground: and he smote
19 thrice, and stayed. And the man of God was wroth with him, and said,
Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten
Syria till thou hadst consumed it: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria
but thrice.
20 And Elisha died, and they buried him. Now the bands of the Moab-
21 ites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. And it came to pass,
as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band; and they
cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and [6]as soon as the man
touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

Successful War of Jehoash with Syria.

22 And Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz.
23 But the LORD was gracious unto them, and had compassion on them,
and had respect unto them, because of his covenant with Abraham,
Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, neither cast he them
24 from his presence [7]as yet. And Hazael king of Syria died; and Ben-
25 hadad his son reigned in his stead. And Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz
took again out of the hand of Benhadad the son of Hazael the cities
which he had taken out of the hand of Jehoahaz his father by war.
Three times did Joash smite him, and recovered the cities of Israel.

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[1] Heb. *his face.*
[2] See ch. ii. 12.
[3] Or, *chariot*
[4] Heb. *salvation.*
[5] Or, *against*
[6] Heb. *when the man went and touched.*
[7] Heb. *until now.*

Amaziah's Victory over Edom.

14 In the second year of Joash
son of Joahaz king of Israel
began **Amaziah** the son of
Joash king of Judah to reign.
2 He was twenty and five years
old when he began to reign;
and he reigned twenty and nine
years in Jerusalem: and his
mother's name was Jehoaddin
3 of Jerusalem. And he did that
which was right in the eyes of
the LORD, yet not like David
his father: he did according to
all that Joash his father had
4 done. Howbeit the high places
were not taken away: the people
still sacrificed and burnt incense
5 in the high places. And it came
to pass, as soon as the kingdom
was established in his hand, that
he slew his servants which had
6 slain the king his father: but
the children of the murderers he
put not to death: according to
that which is written in the book
of the law of Moses, as the LORD
commanded, saying, The fathers
shall not be put to death for the
children, nor the children be put
to death for the fathers; but
every man shall die for his own
sin.

25 **Amaziah** was twenty and
five years old when he began
to reign; and he reigned twenty
and nine years in Jerusalem:
and his mother's name was Je-
2 hoaddan of Jerusalem. And he
did that which was right in the
eyes of the LORD, but not with a
3 perfect heart. Now it came to
pass, when the kingdom was
established unto him, that he
slew his servants which had
4 killed the king his father. But
he put not their children to
death, but did according to
that which is written in the law
in the book of Moses, as the
LORD commanded, saying, The
fathers shall not die for the
children, neither shall the chil-
dren die for the fathers; but
every man shall die for his own
5 sin. Moreover Amaziah gather-
ed Judah together, and ordered
them according to their fathers'
houses, under captains of thou-
sands and captains of hundreds,
even all Judah and Benjamin:
and he numbered them from
twenty years old and upward,
and found them three hundred
thousand chosen men, able to
go forth to war, that could
6 handle spear and shield. He
hired also an hundred thousand
mighty men of valour out of
Israel for an hundred talents of
7 silver. But there came a man
of God to him, saying, O king,
let not the army of Israel go with
thee; for the LORD is not with
Israel, *to wit*, with all the children
8 of Ephraim. But [1]if thou wilt
go, do *valiantly*, be strong for
the battle: God shall cast thee
down before the enemy; for God

[1] Or, *go thou*

7 He slew of Edom in the Valley of Salt ten thousand, and took [1]Sela by war, and called the name of it Joktheel, unto this day.

[1] Or, *the rock*

hath power to help, and to cast
9 down. And **Amaziah** said to the man of God, But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the [1]army of Israel? And the man of God answered, The LORD is able to give thee much more than this.
10 Then Amaziah separated them, *to wit*, the [1]army that was come to him out of Ephraim, to go home again: wherefore their anger was greatly kindled against Judah, and they returned home
11 in fierce anger. And Amaziah took courage, and led forth his people, and went to the Valley of Salt, and smote of the chil-
12 dren of Seir ten thousand. And *other* ten thousand did the children of Judah carry away alive, and brought them unto the top of [2]the rock, and cast them down from the top of [2]the rock, that they all were broken in pieces.
13 But [3]the men of the army which Amaziah sent back, that they should not go with him to battle, fell upon the cities of Judah, from Samaria even unto Bethhoron, and smote of them three thousand, and took much spoil.

Amaziah's Idolatry.

14 Now it came to pass, after that Amaziah was come from the slaughter of the Edomites, that he brought the gods of the children of Seir, and set them up to be his gods, and bowed down himself before them, and burned incense unto them.
15 Wherefore the anger of the LORD was kindled against Amaziah, and he sent unto him a prophet, which said unto him,

[1] Heb. *troop.*
[2] Or, *Sela*
[3] Heb. *the sons of the troop.*

Why hast thou sought after the gods of the people, which have not delivered their own people out
16 of thine hand? And it came to pass, as he talked with him, that *the king* said unto him, Have we made thee of the king's counsel? forbear; why shouldest thou be smitten? Then the prophet forbare, and said, I know that God hath determined to destroy thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not hearkened unto my counsel.

Amaziah defeated by Israel at Beth-shemesh.

8 Then **Amaziah** sent messengers to **Jehoash**, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us look one another in the face.
9 And Jehoash the king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The [1]thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and
10 trode down the thistle. Thou hast indeed smitten Edom, and thine heart hath lifted thee up: glory thereof, and abide at home; for why shouldest thou [2]meddle to *thy* hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, and Judah with
11 thee? But Amaziah would not hear. So Jehoash king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Beth-shemesh, which
12 belongeth to Judah. And Judah was put to the worse before Israel; and they fled every man to his
13 tent. And Jehoash king of Israel took Amaziah king of Judah,

[1] Or, *thorn*
[2] Or, *provoke calamity*

17 Then **Amaziah** king of Judah took advice, and sent to **Joash**, the son of Jehoahaz the son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, Come, let us look one another in the
18 face. And Joash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, The [1]thistle that was in Lebanon sent to the cedar that was in Lebanon, saying, Give thy daughter to my son to wife: and there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trode down
19 the thistle. Thou sayest, Lo, thou hast smitten Edom; and thine heart lifteth thee up to boast: abide now at home; why shouldest thou [2]meddle to *thy* hurt, that thou shouldest fall, even thou, and Judah with thee?
20 But Amaziah would not hear; for it was of God, that he might deliver them into the hand *of their enemies*, because they had sought after the gods of Edom.
21 So Joash king of Israel went up; and he and Amaziah king of Judah looked one another in the face at Beth-shemesh, which
22 belongeth to Judah. And Judah

[1] Or, *thorn*
[2] Or, *provoke calamity*

the son of Jehoash the son of Ahaziah, at Beth-shemesh, and came to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto the corner gate, four hundred cubits.
14 And he took all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of the LORD, and in the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria.
15 Now the rest of the acts of **Jehoash** which he did, and his might, and how he fought with **Amaziah** king of Judah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of
16 Israel? And Jehoash slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel; and **Jeroboam** his son reigned in his stead.

was put to the worse before Israel; and they fled every man to his
23 tent. And **Joash** king of Israel took **Amaziah** king of Judah, the son of Joash the son of Jehoahaz, at Beth-shemesh, and brought him to Jerusalem, and brake down the wall of Jerusalem from the gate of Ephraim unto [1]the corner gate, four hundred cubits.
24 And *he took* all the gold and silver, and all the vessels that were found in the house of God with [2]Obed-edom, and the treasures of the king's house, the hostages also, and returned to Samaria.

Amaziah murdered at Lachish.

17 And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Jehoash son of Jehoahaz king
18 of Israel fifteen years. Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of
19 Judah? And they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem; and he fled to Lachish: but they sent after him to Lachish, and
20 slew him there. And they brought him upon horses: and he was buried at Jerusalem with his fathers in the city of David.

21 And all the people of Judah took [1]**Azariah**, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the room of his father Amaziah.

[1] In ch. xv. 13, *Uzziah.*

25 And Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah lived after the death of Joash son of Jehoahaz king of Israel fifteen years.
26 Now the rest of the acts of Amaziah, first and last, behold, are they not written in the book of the kings of Judah and Israel?
27 Now from the time that Amaziah did turn away from following the LORD they made a conspiracy against him in Jerusalem; and he fled to Lachish: but they sent after him to Lachish, and
28 slew him there. And they brought him upon horses, and buried him with his fathers in the city of Judah.

26 And all the people of Judah took **Uzziah**, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the room of his father Amaziah.

[1] The text has, *the gate that looketh.*
[2] See 1 Chr. xxvi. 15.

22 He built Elath, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

2 He built Eloth, and restored it to Judah, after that the king slept with his fathers.

2 Kings 14. 23.

Jeroboam II. reconquers Moab, Gilead, and part of Syria.

23 In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash king of Judah **Jeroboam** the son of Joash king of Israel began to reign in Samaria,
24 *and reigned* forty and one years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam
25 the son of Nebat, wherewith he made Israel to sin. He restored the border of Israel from the entering in of Hamath unto the sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, which he spake by the hand of his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet,
26 which was of Gath-hepher. For the LORD saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter: for there was none shut up nor left at large,
27 neither was there any helper for Israel. And the LORD said not that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven: but he
28 saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash. Now the rest of the acts of Jeroboam, and all that he did, and his might, how he warred, and how he recovered Damascus, and Hamath, *which had belonged* to Judah, for Israel, are they not written in the book of
29 the chronicles of the kings of Israel? And Jeroboam slept with his fathers, even with the kings of Israel; and **Zechariah** his son reigned in his stead.

Uzziah's successful War against the Philistines.

2 Kings 15. 1.

15 In the twenty and seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel began [1]**Azariah** son of Amaziah king of Judah to reign.
2 Sixteen years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned two and fifty years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jecoliah of Jerusa-
3 lem. And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his
4 father Amaziah had done. Howbeit the high places were not taken away: the people still sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places.

[1] In verses 13, 30, &c., *Uzziah.*

2 Chronicles 26. 3.

3 Sixteen years old was **Uzziah** when he began to reign; and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jechiliah of Jerusa-
4 lem. And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, according to all that his
5 father Amaziah had done. And he set himself to seek God in the days of Zechariah, who [1]had understanding in [2]the vision of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to
6 prosper. And he went forth

[1] Or, *gave instruction*
[2] Heb. *the seeing.* Many ancient authorities have, *the fear.*

and warred against the Philistines, and brake down the wall of Gath,
and the wall of Jabneh, and the wall of Ashdod; and he built cities in
7 *the country of* Ashdod, and among the Philistines. And God helped
him against the Philistines, and against the Arabians that dwelt in
8 Gur-baal, and the Meunim. And the Ammonites gave gifts to **Uzziah**:
and his name spread abroad even to the entering in of Egypt; for he
9 waxed exceeding strong. Moreover Uzziah built towers in Jerusalem
at the corner gate, and at the valley gate, and at the turning *of the wall*,
10 and fortified them. And he built towers in the wilderness, and hewed
out many cisterns, for he had much cattle; in the lowland also, and in
the [1]plain: *and he had* husbandmen and vinedressers in the mountains
11 and in [2]the fruitful fields; for he loved husbandry. Moreover Uzziah
had an army of fighting men, that went out to war by bands, according
to the number of their reckoning made by Jeiel the scribe and Maaseiah
the officer, under the hand of Hananiah, one of the king's captains.
12 The whole number of the heads of fathers' *houses*, even the mighty men
13 of valour, was two thousand and six hundred. And under their hand
was [3]a trained army, three hundred thousand and seven thousand and
five hundred, that made war with mighty power, to help the king
14 against the enemy. And Uzziah prepared for them, even for all the
host, shields, and spears, and helmets, and coats of mail, and bows, and
15 stones for slinging. And he made in Jerusalem engines, invented by
cunning men, to be on the towers and upon the [4]battlements, to shoot
arrows and great stones withal. And his name spread far abroad; for
he was marvellously helped, till he was strong.

Uzziah's Leprosy and Death.

16 But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up [5]so that he did
corruptly, and he trespassed against the LORD his God; for he went
into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.
17 And Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him fourscore priests
18 of the LORD, that were valiant men: and they withstood Uzziah the
king, and said unto him, It pertaineth not unto thee, Uzziah, to burn
incense unto the LORD, but to the priests the sons of Aaron, that are
consecrated to burn incense: go out of the sanctuary; for thou hast
trespassed; neither shall it be for thine honour from the LORD God.
19 Then Uzziah was wroth; and he had a censer in his hand to burn
incense; and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy [6]brake
forth in his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, beside
20 the altar of incense. And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests,
looked upon him, and, behold, he was leprous in his forehead, and
they thrust him out quickly from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go
out, because the LORD had smitten him.

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[1] Or, *table land*
[2] Or, *Carmel* See 1 Sam. xxv. 2.
[3] Or, *the power of an army*
[4] Or, *corner towers*
[5] Or, *to* his *destruction*
[6] Heb. *rose* (as the sun).

5 And the LORD smote the king, so that he was a leper unto the day of his death and dwelt in a [1] several house. And Jotham the king's son was over the household, judg-
6 ing the people of the land. Now the rest of the acts of **Azariah**, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Ju-
7 dah? And Azariah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the city of David: and **Jotham** his son reigned in his stead.

21 And **Uzziah** the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a [1] several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people
22 of the land. Now the rest of the acts of Uzziah, first and last, did Isaiah the prophet, the son
23 of Amoz, write. So Uzziah slept with his fathers; and they buried him with his fathers in the field of burial which belonged to the kings; for they said, He is a leper: and **Jotham** his son reigned in his stead.

2 Kings 15. 8.

The last Kings of Israel.

8 In the thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did **Zechariah** the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.
9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as his fathers had done: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat,
10 wherewith he made Israel to sin. And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and smote him before the people, and slew him,
11 and reigned in his stead. Now the rest of the acts of Zechariah, behold, they are written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of
12 Israel. This was the word of the LORD which he spake unto Jehu, saying, Thy sons to the fourth generation shall sit upon the throne of Israel. And so it came to pass.
13 **Shallum** the son of Jabesh began to reign in the nine and thirtieth year of Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned the space of a month in
14 Samaria. And Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and
15 slew him, and reigned in his stead. Now the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the book
16 of the chronicles of the kings of Israel. Then **Menahem** smote Tiphsah, and all that were therein, and the borders thereof, from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.
17 In the nine and thirtieth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, *and reigned* ten years in
18 Samaria. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed not all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat,
19 wherewith he made Israel to sin. There came against the land Pul the

[1] Or, *lazar house*

[1] Or, *lazar house*

king of Assyria; and **Menahem** gave Pul a thousand talents of silver,
that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.
20 And Menahem exacted the money of Israel, even of all the mighty
men of wealth, of each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of
Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and stayed not there in
21 the land. Now the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did,
are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel?
22 And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in
his stead.
23 In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah **Pekahiah** the son of
Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, *and reigned* two years.
24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he departed
not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, wherewith he made
25 Israel to sin. And Pekah the son of Remaliah, his captain, conspired
against him, and smote him in Samaria, in the [1]castle of the king's
house, with Argob and Arieh; and with him were fifty men of the
26 Gileadites: and he slew him, and reigned in his stead. Now the rest
of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in
the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Gilead conquered by Tiglath-pileser, King of Assyria.

27 In the two and fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah **Pekah** the son
of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, *and reigned* twenty
28 years. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD: he
departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, wherewith he
29 made Israel to sin. In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-
pileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abel-beth-maacah, and
Janoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land
30 of Naphtali; and he carried them captive to Assyria. And **Hoshea**
the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah,
and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the twentieth
31 year of Jotham the son of Uzziah. Now the rest of the acts of Pekah,
and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the
chronicles of the kings of Israel.

Jotham's War with Ammon.

2 Kings 15. 32.

32 In the second year of Pekah
son of Remaliah king of Israel
began **Jotham** the son of Uzziah
33 king of Judah to reign. Five
and twenty years old was he
when he began to reign; and he
reigned sixteen years in Jeru-
salem: and his mother's name

2 Chronicles 27. 1.

27 **Jotham** was twenty and five
years old when he began to
reign; and he reigned sixteen
years in Jerusalem: and his
mother's name was Jerushah the
2 daughter of Zadok. And he did
that which was right in the eyes
of the LORD, according to all that

[1] Or, *palace*

was Jerusha the daughter of
34 Zadok. And he did that which
was right in the eyes of the LORD:
he did according to all that his
35 father Uzziah had done. How-
beit the high places were not
taken away: the people still
sacrificed and burned incense in
the high places. He built the
upper gate of the house of the
LORD.

36 Now the rest of the acts of
Jotham, and all that he did, are
they not written in the book of
the chronicles of the kings of
37 Judah? In those days the LORD
began to send against Judah
Rezin the king of Syria, and
Pekah the son of Remaliah.
38 And Jotham slept with his fathers,
and was buried with his fathers
in the city of David his father:
and Ahaz his son reigned in his
stead.

his father Uzziah had done:
howbeit he entered not into the
temple of the LORD. And the
3 people did yet corruptly. He
built the upper gate of the house
of the LORD, and on the wall of
4 Ophel he built much. Moreover
he built cities in the hill country
of Judah, and in the forests he
5 built castles and towers. He
fought also with the king of the
children of Ammon, and pre-
vailed against them. And the
children of Ammon gave him the
same year an hundred talents of
silver, and ten thousand [1]mea-
sures of wheat, and ten thousand
of barley. So much did the
children of Ammon render unto
him, in the second year also, and
6 in the third. So **Jotham** be-
came mighty, because he ordered
his ways before the LORD his
7 God. Now the rest of the acts
of Jotham, and all his wars, and
his ways, behold, they are written
in the book of the kings of Israel
8 and Judah. He was five and
twenty years old when he began
to reign, and reigned sixteen
9 years in Jerusalem. And Jotham
slept with his fathers, and they
buried him in the city of David:
and Ahaz his son reigned in his
stead.

Ahaz establishes Fire-worship, and is attacked by Israel and Syria.

16 In the seventeenth year of
Pekah the son of Remaliah **Ahaz**
the son of Jotham king of Judah
2 began to reign. Twenty years
old was Ahaz when he began to
reign; and he reigned sixteen
years in Jerusalem: and he did
not that which was right in the
eyes of the LORD his God, like
3 David his father. But he walked
in the way of the kings of Israel,

28 **Ahaz** was twenty years old
when he began to reign; and he
reigned sixteen years in Jeru-
salem: and he did not that
which was right in the eyes of
the LORD, like David his father:
2 but he walked in the ways of the
kings of Israel, and made also
molten images for the Baalim.

[1] Heb. *cors*.

yea, and made his son to pass
through the fire, according to the
abominations of the heathen,
whom the LORD cast out from
before the children of Israel.
4 And he sacrificed and burnt in-
cense in the high places, and on
the hills, and under every green
5 tree. Then Rezin king of Syria
and Pekah son of Remaliah king
of Israel came up to Jerusalem
to war: and they besieged **Ahaz**,
but could not overcome him.

3 Moreover he burnt incense in
the valley of the son of Hinnom,
and burnt his children in the fire,
according to the abominations of
the heathen, whom the LORD
cast out before the children of
4 Israel. And he sacrificed and
burnt incense in the high places,
and on the hills, and under every
5 green tree. Wherefore the LORD
his God delivered him into the
hand of the king of Syria; and
they smote him, and carried away
of his a great multitude of cap-
tives, and brought them to Da-
mascus. And he was also de-
livered into the hand of the king
of Israel, who smote him with
6 a great slaughter. For **Pekah**
the son of Remaliah slew in
Judah an hundred and twenty
thousand in one day, all of them
valiant men; because they had
forsaken the LORD, the God of
7 their fathers. And Zichri, a
mighty man of Ephraim, slew
Maaseiah the king's son, and
Azikam the ruler of the house,
and Elkanah that was [1]next to the
8 king. And the children of Israel
carried away captive of their
brethren two hundred thousand,
women, sons, and daughters, and
took also away much spoil from
them, and brought the spoil to
9 Samaria. But a prophet of the
LORD was there, whose name was
Oded: and he went out to meet
the host that came to Samaria,
and said unto them, Behold,
because the LORD, the God of
your fathers, was wroth with
Judah, he hath delivered them
into your hand, and ye have slain
them in a rage which hath reached
10 up unto heaven. And now ye
purpose to keep under the chil-
dren of Judah and Jerusalem for

[1] Heb. *second.*

6 At that time Rezin king of Syria recovered Elath to Syria, and drave the Jews from [1]Elath: and the [2]Syrians came to Elath, and dwelt there, unto this day.

[1] Heb. *Eloth.*
[2] According to another reading, *Edomites.*

bondmen and bondwomen unto you: *but* are there not even with you [1]trespasses of your own against the LORD your God?
11 Now hear me therefore, and send back the captives, which ye have taken captive of your brethren: for the fierce wrath of the LORD
12 is upon you. Then certain of the heads of the children of Ephraim, Azariah the son of Johanan, Berechiah the son of Meshillemoth, and Jehizkiah the son of Shallum, and Amasa the son of Hadlai, stood up against them that came from the war,
13 and said unto them, Ye shall not bring in the captives hither: for ye purpose that which will bring upon us [2]a trespass against the LORD, to add unto our sins and to our [2]trespass: for our [2]trespass is great, and there is fierce wrath
14 against Israel. So the armed men left the captives and the spoil before the princes and all
15 the congregation. And the men which have been expressed by name rose up, and took the captives, and with the spoil clothed all that were naked among them, and arrayed them, and shod them, and gave them to eat and to drink, and anointed them, and carried all the feeble of them upon asses, and brought them to Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto their brethren: then they returned to Samaria.

[1] Heb. *guiltinesses.*
[2] Or, *guilt*

Ahaz pays Tribute to Assyria.

7 So **Ahaz** sent messengers to
Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria,
saying, I am thy servant and thy
son: come up, and save me out
of the hand of the king of Syria,
and out of the hand of the king
of Israel, which rise up against
8 me. And Ahaz took the silver
and gold that was found in the
house of the LORD, and in the
treasures of the king's house, and
sent it for a present to the king
9 of Assyria. And the king of
Assyria hearkened unto him:
and the king of Assyria went up
against Damascus, and took it,
and carried *the people of* it cap-
tive to Kir, and slew Rezin.
10 And king Ahaz went to Da-
mascus to meet Tiglath-pileser
king of Assyria, and saw the altar
that was at Damascus: and king
Ahaz sent to Urijah the priest
the fashion of the altar, and the
pattern of it, according to all the
11 workmanship thereof. And Uri-
jah the priest built an altar:
according to all that king Ahaz
had sent from Damascus, so did
Urijah the priest make it against
king Ahaz came from Damascus.
12 And when the king was come
from Damascus, the king saw
the altar: and the king drew
near unto the altar, and [1]offered
13 thereon. And he burnt his burnt
offering and his meal offering,
and poured his drink offering,
and sprinkled the blood of [2]his
peace offerings, upon the altar.
14 And the brasen altar, which was
before the LORD, he brought

[1] Or, *went up unto it*
[2] Heb. *the peace offerings which were his.*

16 At that time did king **Ahaz**
send unto the [1]kings of Assyria
17 to help him. For again the E-
domites had come and smitten
Judah, and carried away [2]cap-
18 tives. The Philistines also had
invaded the cities of the lowland,
and of the South of Judah, and
had taken Beth-shemesh, and
Aijalon, and Gederoth, and Soco
with the [3]towns thereof, and
Timnah with the [3]towns thereof,
Gimzo also and the [3]towns
thereof: and they dwelt there.
19 For the LORD brought Judah
low because of Ahaz king of
Israel; for he had [4]dealt wan-
tonly in Judah, and trespassed
20 sore against the LORD. And
Tilgath-pilneser king of Assyria
came [5]unto him, and distressed
him, but [6]strengthened him not.
21 For Ahaz took away a portion
out of the house of the LORD,
and out of the house of the king
and of the princes, and gave it
unto the king of Assyria: but it
22 helped him not. And in the
time [7]of his distress did he tres-
pass yet more against the LORD,
23 this same king Ahaz. For he
sacrificed unto the gods of [8]Da-
mascus, which smote him: and
he said, Because the gods of the
kings of Syria helped them,
therefore will I sacrifice to them,
that they may help me. But
they were the ruin of him, and of

[1] Many ancient authorities read, *king.*
[2] Heb. *a captivity.*
[3] Heb. *daughters.*
[4] Or, *cast away restraint*
[5] Or, *against*
[6] Or, *prevailed not against him*
[7] Or, *that he distressed him*
[8] Heb. *Darmesek.*

from the forefront of the house,
from between his altar and the
house of the LORD, and put it
on the north side of his altar.
15 And king **Ahaz** commanded
Urijah the priest, saying, Upon
the great altar burn the morning
burnt offering, and the evening
meal offering, and the king's
burnt offering, and his meal
offering, with the burnt offering
of all the people of the land,
and their meal offering, and their
drink offerings; and sprinkle
upon it all the blood of the
burnt offering, and all the
blood of the sacrifice: but the
brasen altar shall be for me to
16 inquire by. Thus did Urijah
the priest, according to all that
17 king Ahaz commanded. And
king Ahaz cut off the [1]borders
of the bases, and removed the
laver from off them; and took
down the sea from off the brasen
oxen that were under it, and put
it upon a pavement of stone.
18 And the [2]covered way for the
sabbath that they had built in
the house, and the king's entry
without, turned he [3]unto the
house of the LORD, because of
19 the king of Assyria. Now the
rest of the acts of Ahaz which
he did, are they not written in
the book of the chronicles of the
20 kings of Judah? And Ahaz
slept with his fathers, and was
buried with his fathers in the city
of David: and **Hezekiah** his
son reigned in his stead.

24 all Israel. And **Ahaz** gathered
together the vessels of the house
of God, and cut in pieces the
vessels of the house of God, and
shut up the doors of the house
of the LORD; and he made him
altars in every corner of Jeru-
25 salem. And in every several
city of Judah he made high
places to burn incense unto other
gods, and provoked to anger the
LORD, the God of his fathers.

26 Now the rest of his acts, and
all his ways, first and last, behold,
they are written in the book of
the kings of Judah and Israel.
27 And Ahaz slept with his fathers,
and they buried him in the city,
even in Jerusalem; for they
brought him not into the se-
pulchres of the kings of Israel:
and **Hezekiah** his son reigned
in his stead.

[1] Or, *panels*
[2] Or, *covered place*
[3] Or, *round*

Hoshea besieged in Samaria by Shalmaneser, King of Assyria. Israel carried away captive.

17 In the twelfth year of Ahaz king of Judah began **Hoshea** the son
2 of Elah to reign in Samaria over Israel, *and reigned* nine years. And
he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, yet not as the
3 kings of Israel that were before him. Against him came up Shal-
maneser king of Assyria; and Hoshea became his servant, and brought
4 him presents. And the king of Assyria found conspiracy in Hoshea;
for he had sent messengers to So king of Egypt, and offered no present
to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year: therefore the king
5 of Assyria shut him up, and bound him in prison. Then the king of
Assyria came up throughout all the land, and went up to Samaria, and
6 besieged it three years. In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of
Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away unto Assyria, and placed
them in Halah, and in Habor, *on* the river of Gozan, and in the cities
7 of the Medes. And it was so, because the children of Israel had sinned
against the LORD their God, which brought them up out of the land of
Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared
8 other gods, and walked in the statutes of the nations, whom the LORD
cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israël,
9 which they [1]made. And the children of Israel did secretly things that
were not right against the LORD their God, and they built them high
places in all their cities, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced
10 city. And they set them up [2]pillars and Asherim upon every high hill,
11 and under every green tree: and there they burnt incense in all the
high places, as did the nations whom the LORD carried away before
12 them; and wrought wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger: and
they served idols, whereof the LORD had said unto them, Ye shall not
13 do this thing. Yet the LORD testified unto Israel, and unto Judah, by
the hand of every prophet, and of every seer, saying, Turn ye from your
evil ways, and keep my commandments and my statutes, according to
all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you
14 by the hand of my servants the prophets. Notwithstanding they would
not hear, but hardened their neck, like to the neck of their fathers, who
15 believed not in the LORD their God. And they rejected his statutes,
and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies
which he testified unto them; and they followed vanity, and became
vain, and *went* after the nations that were round about them, concern-
ing whom the LORD had charged them that they should not do like
16 them. And they forsook all the commandments of the LORD their God,
and made them molten images, even two calves, and made an Asherah,
17 and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. And they
caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used
divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do that which was
18 evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger. Therefore the

[1] Or, *practised* [2] Or, *obelisks*

LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight:
19 there was none left but the tribe of Judah only. Also Judah kept not
the commandments of the LORD their God, but walked in the statutes
20 of Israel which they [1]made. And the LORD rejected all the seed of
Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers,
21 until he had cast them out of his sight. For he rent Israel from the
house of David; and they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king: and
Jeroboam [2]drave Israel from following the LORD, and made them sin a
22 great sin. And the children of Israel walked in all the sins of Jeroboam
23 which he did; they departed not from them; until the LORD removed
Israel out of his sight, as he spake by the hand of all his servants the
prophets. So Israel was carried away out of their own land to Assyria,
unto this day.

The worship of Jehovah established among the Assyrian Colonists.

24 And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from
Cuthah, and from Avva, and from Hamath and Sepharvaim, and
placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel:
25 and they possessed Samaria, and dwelt in the cities thereof. And so it
was, at the beginning of their dwelling there, that they feared not the
LORD: therefore the LORD sent lions among them, which killed some
26 of them. Wherefore they spake to the king of Assyria, saying, The
nations which thou hast carried away, and placed in the cities of
Samaria, know not the manner of the God of the land: therefore he
hath sent lions among them, and, behold, they slay them, because they
27 know not the manner of the God of the land. Then the king of
Assyria commanded, saying, Carry thither one of the priests whom ye
brought from thence; and let them go and dwell there, and let him
28 teach them the manner of the God of the land. So one of the priests
whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelt in Beth-el,
29 and taught them how they should fear the LORD. Howbeit every
nation made gods of their own, and put them in the houses of the
high places which the Samaritans had made, every nation in their cities
30 wherein they dwelt. And the men of Babylon made Succoth-benoth,
and the men of Cuth made Nergal, and the men of Hamath made
31 Ashima, and the Avvites made Nibhaz and Tartak, and the Sepharvites
burnt their children in the fire to Adrammelech and Anammelech, the
32 [3]gods of Sepharvaim. So they feared the LORD, and made unto them
from among themselves priests of the high places, which sacrificed for
33 them in the houses of the high places. They feared the LORD, and
served their own gods, after the manner of the nations from among
34 whom they had been carried away. Unto this day they do after the
former manners: they fear not the LORD, neither do they after their
statutes, or after their ordinances, or after the law or after the command-
ment which the LORD commanded the children of Jacob, whom he
35 named Israel; with whom the LORD had made a covenant, and charged
them, saying, Ye shall not fear other gods, nor bow yourselves to them,

[1] Or, *practised* [2] According to another reading, *drew Israel away.* [3] Or, *god*

36 nor serve them, nor sacrifice to them: but the LORD, who brought you
up out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a stretched out
arm, him shall ye fear, and unto him shall ye bow yourselves, and to
37 him shall ye sacrifice: and the statutes and the ordinances, and the law
and the commandment, which he wrote for you, ye shall observe to do
38 for evermore; and ye shall not fear other gods: and the covenant that
I have made with you ye shall not forget; neither shall ye fear other
39 gods: but the LORD your God shall ye fear; and he shall deliver you
40 out of the hand of all your enemies. Howbeit they did not hearken,
41 but they did after their former manner. So these nations feared the
LORD, and served their graven images; their children likewise, and
their children's children, as did their fathers, so do they unto this
day.

Hezekiah's destruction of the Asherah and Brazen Serpent.

2 Kings 18. 1.

18 Now it came to pass in the
third year of Hoshea son of Elah
king of Israel, that **Hezekiah**
the son of Ahaz king of Judah
2 began to reign. Twenty and
five years old was he when he
began to reign; and he reigned
twenty and nine years in Jerusa-
lem: and his mother's name was
Abi the daughter of Zechariah.
3 And he did that which was right
in the eyes of the LORD, accord-
ing to all that David his father
4 had done. He removed the
high places, and brake the pil-
lars, and cut down the Asherah:
and he brake in pieces the brasen
serpent that Moses had made;
for unto those days the children
of Israel did burn incense to it;
and [1]he called it [2]Nehushtan.
5 He trusted in the LORD, the
God of Israel; so that after
him was none like him among
all the kings of Judah, nor *among*
6 *them* that were before him. For
he clave to the LORD, he depart-
ed not from following him, but
kept his commandments, which
the LORD commanded Moses.

[1] Or, *it was called*
[2] That is, *A piece of brass.*

2 Chronicles 29. 1.

29 **Hezekiah** began to reign
when he was five and twenty
years old; and he reigned nine
and twenty years in Jerusalem:
and his mother's name was Abi-
jah the daughter of Zechariah.

2 And he did that which was
right in the eyes of the LORD
according to all that David his
3 father had done. He in the first
year of his reign, in the first
month, opened the doors of the
house of the LORD, and repaired
4 them. And he brought in the
priests and the Levites, and
gathered them together into the
5 broad place on the east, and
said unto them, Hear me, ye
Levites; now sanctify yourselves,
and sanctify the house of the
LORD, the God of your fathers,
and carry forth the filthiness out
6 of the holy place. For our fathers
have trespassed, and done that
which was evil in the sight of the
LORD our God, and have forsaken
him, and have turned away their
faces from the habitation of the
LORD, and turned their backs.

7 And the LORD was with him; whithersoever he went forth he prospered: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria,
8 and served him not. He smote the Philistines unto Gaza and the borders thereof, from the tower of the watchmen to the fenced city.

7 Also they have shut up the doors of the porch, and put out the lamps, and have not burned incense nor offered burnt offerings in the holy place unto
8 the God of Israel. Wherefore the wrath of the LORD was upon Judah and Jerusalem, and he hath delivered them to be [1]tossed to and fro, to be an astonishment, and an hissing, as ye see with
9 your eyes. For, lo, our fathers have fallen by the sword, and our sons and our daughters and our wives are in captivity for
10 this. Now it is in mine heart to make a covenant with the LORD, the God of Israel, that his fierce anger may turn away
11 from us. My sons, be not now negligent: for the LORD hath chosen you to stand before him, to minister unto him, and that ye should be his ministers, and burn incense.

2 Chronicles 29. 12.

Restoration of the Temple by Hezekiah.

12 Then the Levites arose, Mahath the son of Amasai, and Joel the son of Azariah, of the sons of the Kohathites: and of the sons of Merari, Kish the son of Abdi, and Azariah the son of Jehallelel: and of the
13 Gershonites, Joah the son of Zimmah, and Eden the son of Joah: and of the sons of Elizaphan, Shimri and Jeuel: and of the sons of Asaph,
14 Zechariah and Mattaniah: and of the sons of Heman, Jehuel and
15 Shimei: and of the sons of Jeduthun, Shemaiah and Uzziel. And they gathered their brethren, and sanctified themselves, and went in, according to the commandment of the king by the words of the LORD,
16 to cleanse the house of the LORD. And the priests went in unto the inner part of the house of the LORD, to cleanse it, and brought out all the uncleanness that they found in the temple of the LORD into the court of the house of the LORD. And the Levites took it, to carry it
17 out abroad to the brook Kidron. Now they began on the first *day* of the first month to sanctify, and on the eighth day of the month came they to the porch of the LORD; and they sanctified the house of the LORD in eight days: and on the sixteenth day of the first month they
18 made an end. Then they went in to **Hezekiah** the king within *the*

[1] Or, *a terror*

palace, and said, We have cleansed all the house of the LORD, and the altar of burnt offering, with all the vessels thereof, and the table of
19 shewbread, with all the vessels thereof. Moreover all the vessels, which king Ahaz in his reign did cast away when he trespassed, have we prepared and sanctified; and, behold, they are before the altar of the LORD.
20 Then **Hezekiah** the king arose early, and gathered the princes of the
21 city, and went up to the house of the LORD. And they brought seven bullocks, and seven rams, and seven lambs, and seven he-goats, for a sin offering for the kingdom and for the sanctuary and for Judah. And he commanded the priests the sons of Aaron to offer them on the altar
22 of the LORD. So they killed the bullocks, and the priests received the blood, and sprinkled it on the altar: and they killed the rams, and sprinkled the blood upon the altar: they killed also the lambs, and
23 sprinkled the blood upon the altar. And they brought near the he-goats for the sin offering before the king and the congregation;
24 and they laid their hands upon them: and the priests killed them, and they made a sin offering with their blood upon the altar, to make atonement for all Israel: for the king commanded *that* the burnt
25 offering and the sin offering *should be made* for all Israel. And he set the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, with psalteries, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, and of Gad the king's seer, and Nathan the prophet: for the commandment was
26 of the LORD by his prophets. And the Levites stood with the instru-
27 ments of David, and the priests with the trumpets. And Hezekiah commanded to offer the burnt offering upon the altar. And when the burnt offering began, the song of the LORD began also, and the
28 trumpets, together with the instruments of David king of Israel. And all the congregation worshipped, and the singers sang, and the trumpeters sounded; all this *continued* until the burnt offering was finished.
29 And when they had made an end of offering, the king and all that
30 were present with him bowed themselves and worshipped. Moreover Hezekiah the king and the princes commanded the Levites to sing praises unto the LORD with the words of David, and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed their heads
31 and worshipped. Then Hezekiah answered and said, Now ye have [1]consecrated yourselves unto the LORD, come near and bring sacrifices and thank offerings into the house of the LORD. And the congregation brought in sacrifices and thank offerings; and as many as were of a
32 willing heart *brought* burnt offerings. And the number of the burnt offerings, which the congregation brought, was threescore and ten bullocks, an hundred rams, and two hundred lambs: all these were
33 for a burnt offering to the LORD. And the consecrated things were six
34 hundred oxen and three thousand sheep. But the priests were too few, so that they could not flay all the burnt offerings: wherefore their brethren the Levites did help them, till the work was ended, and until the priests had sanctified themselves: for the Levites were more upright
35 in heart to sanctify themselves than the priests. And also the burnt

[1] Heb. *filled your hand.*

offerings were in abundance, with the fat of the peace offerings, and
with the drink offerings for every burnt offering. So the service of the
36 house of the LORD was set in order. And **Hezekiah** rejoiced, and all
the people, because of that which God had prepared for the people:
for the thing was done suddenly.

The Passover kept.

30 And Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to
Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the LORD
at Jerusalem, to keep the passover unto the LORD, the God of Israel.
2 For the king had taken counsel, and his princes, and all the congrega-
3 tion in Jerusalem, to keep the passover in the second month. For
they could not keep it at that time, because the priests had not
sanctified themselves in sufficient number, neither had the people
4 gathered themselves together to Jerusalem. And the thing was right
5 in the eyes of the king and of all the congregation. So they established
a decree to make proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beer-sheba
even to Dan, that they should come to keep the passover unto the
LORD, the God of Israel, at Jerusalem: for they had not kept it [1]in
6 great numbers in such sort as it is written. So the posts went with the
letters from the king and his princes throughout all Israel and Judah,
and according to the commandment of the king, saying, Ye children of
Israel, turn again unto the LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and
Israel, that he may return to the remnant that are escaped of you out
7 of the hand of the kings of Assyria. And be not ye like your fathers,
and like your brethren, which trespassed against the LORD, the God of
8 their fathers, so that he gave them up [2]to desolation, as ye see. Now
be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers were; but [3]yield yourselves unto
the LORD, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for
ever, and serve the LORD your God, that his fierce anger may turn
9 away from you. For if ye turn again unto the LORD, your brethren and
your children shall find compassion before them that led them captive,
and shall come again into this land: for the LORD your God is gracious
and merciful, and will not turn away his face from you, if ye return
10 unto him. So the posts passed from city to city through the country
of Ephraim and Manasseh, even unto Zebulun: but they laughed them
11 to scorn, and mocked them. Nevertheless divers of Asher and Manasseh
12 and of Zebulun humbled themselves, and came to Jerusalem. Also in
Judah was the hand of God to give them one heart, to do the command-
13 ment of the king and of the princes by the word of the LORD. And
there assembled at Jerusalem much people to keep the feast of un-
14 leavened bread in the second month, a very great congregation. And
they arose and took away the altars that were in Jerusalem, and all
the [4]altars for incense took they away, and cast them into the brook
15 Kidron. Then they killed the passover on the fourteenth *day* of the
second month: and the priests and the Levites were ashamed, and

[1] Or, *of a long time*
[2] Or, *to be an astonishment*
[3] Heb. *give the hand.*
[4] Or, *vessels*

sanctified themselves, and brought burnt offerings into the house of the
16 LORD. And they stood in their place after their order, according to the
law of Moses the man of God: the priests sprinkled the blood, *which*
17 *they received* of the hand of the Levites. For there were many in the
congregation that had not sanctified themselves: therefore the Levites
had the charge of killing the passovers for every one that was not clean,
18 to sanctify them unto the LORD. For a multitude of the people, even
many of Ephraim and Manasseh, Issachar and Zebulun, had not
cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it
is written. For **Hezekiah** had prayed for them, saying, The good
19 LORD pardon [1]every one that setteth his heart to seek God, the LORD,
the God of his fathers, though *he be* not *cleansed* according to the purifi-
20 cation of the sanctuary. And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and
21 healed the people. And the children of Israel that were present at
Jerusalem kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with great
gladness: and the Levites and the priests praised the LORD day by
22 day, *singing* with loud instruments unto the LORD. And Hezekiah
spake comfortably unto all the Levites that were well skilled *in the*
service of the LORD. So they did eat throughout the feast for the seven
days, offering sacrifices of peace offerings, and [2]making confession to
23 the LORD, the God of their fathers. And the whole congregation took
counsel to keep other seven days: and they kept *other* seven days with
24 gladness. For Hezekiah king of Judah did give to the congregation for
offerings a thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep; and the
princes gave to the congregation a thousand bullocks and ten thou-
25 sand sheep: and a great number of priests sanctified themselves. And
all the congregation of Judah, with the priests and the Levites, and all
the congregation that came out of Israel, and the strangers that came
26 out of the land of Israel, and that dwelt in Judah, rejoiced. So there
was great joy in Jerusalem: for since the time of Solomon the son of
27 David king of Israel there was not the like in Jerusalem. Then the
priests the Levites arose and blessed the people: and their voice was
heard, and their prayer came up to his holy habitation, even unto
heaven.

Hezekiah's destruction of the High Places and local Altars.

31 Now when all this was finished, all Israel that were present went out
to the cities of Judah, and brake in pieces the [3]pillars, and hewed down
the Asherim, and brake down the high places and the altars out of all
Judah and Benjamin, in Ephraim also and Manasseh, until they had
destroyed them all. Then all the children of Israel returned, every man
2 to his possession, into their own cities. And Hezekiah appointed
the courses of the priests and the Levites after their courses, every
man according to his service, both the priests and the Levites, for burnt
offerings and for peace offerings, to minister, and to give thanks, and
3 to praise in the gates of the camp of the LORD. *He appointed* also
the king's portion of his substance for the burnt offerings, *to wit*, for the

[1] Or, *him that setteth his whole heart* [2] Or, *giving thanks* [3] Or, *obelisks*

morning and evening burnt offerings, and the burnt offerings for the
sabbaths, and for the new moons, and for the set feasts, as it is written
4 in the law of the LORD. Moreover he commanded the people that
dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites,
5 that they might [1]give themselves to the law of the LORD. And as soon
as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel gave in
abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all
the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things brought they in
6 abundantly. And the children of Israel and Judah, that dwelt in the
cities of Judah, they also brought in the tithe of oxen and sheep, and
the tithe of dedicated things which were consecrated unto the LORD
7 their God, and laid them by heaps. In the third month they began to
lay the foundation of the heaps, and finished them in the seventh month.
8 And when **Hezekiah** and the princes came and saw the heaps, they
9 blessed the LORD, and his people Israel. Then Hezekiah questioned
10 with the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps. And Azariah
the chief priest, of the house of Zadok, answered him and said, Since
the people began to bring the oblations into the house of the LORD, we
have eaten and had enough, and have left plenty: for the LORD hath
11 blessed his people; and that which is left is this great store. Then
Hezekiah commanded to prepare chambers in the house of the LORD;
12 and they prepared them. And they brought in the oblations and the
tithes and the dedicated things faithfully: and over them Conaniah the
13 Levite was ruler, and Shimei his brother was second. And Jehiel, and
Azaziah, and Nahath, and Asahel, and Jerimoth, and Jozabad, and
Eliel, and Ismachiah, and Mahath, and Benaiah, were overseers under
the hand of Conaniah and Shimei his brother, by the appointment of
14 Hezekiah the king, and Azariah the ruler of the house of God. And
Kore the son of Imnah the Levite, the porter at the east *gate*, was over
the freewill offerings of God, to distribute the oblations of the LORD,
15 and the most holy things. And under him were Eden, and Miniamin,
and Jeshua, and Shemaiah, Amariah, and Shecaniah, in the cities of the
priests, in their [2]set office, to give to their brethren by courses, as well
16 to the great as to the small: beside them that were reckoned by genea-
logy of males, from three years old and upward, even every one that
entered into the house of the LORD, [3]as the duty of every day required,
17 for their service in their charges according to their courses; and them
that were reckoned by genealogy of the priests by their fathers' houses,
and the Levites from twenty years old and upward, in their charges by
18 their courses; [4]and them that were reckoned by genealogy of all their
little ones, their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, through all
the congregation: for in their [2]set office they sanctified themselves in
19 holiness: also for the sons of Aaron the priests, which were in the fields
of the suburbs of their cities, in every several city, there were men that
were expressed by name, to give portions to all the males among the
priests, and to all that were reckoned by genealogy among the Levites.

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[1] Heb. *be strong in.*
[2] Or, *trust*
[3] Or, *for his daily portion*
[4] Or, *even* to give *to them &c.*

20 And thus did **Hezekiah** throughout all Judah; and he wrought that
which was good and right and [1]faithful before the LORD his God.
21 And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God,
and in the law, and in the commandments, to seek his God, he did it
with all his heart, and prospered.

2 Kings 18. 9.

The Fall of Samaria [*second notice,* v. p. 80].

9 And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was
the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser
10 king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. And at the
end of three years they took it: even in the sixth year of Hezekiah,
which was the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken.
11 And the king of Assyria carried Israel away unto Assyria, and put them
in Halah, and in Habor, *on* the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the
12 Medes: because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD their God, but
transgressed his covenant, even all that Moses the servant of the LORD
commanded, and would not hear it, nor do it.

Invasion of Sennacherib, King of Assyria.

2 Kings 18. 13.

13 Now in the fourteenth year of
king Hezekiah did [2]Sennache-
rib king of Assyria come up
against all the fenced cities of
14 Judah, and took them. And
Hezekiah king of Judah sent to
the king of Assyria to Lachish,
saying, I have offended; return
from me: that which thou puttest
on me will I bear. And the
king of Assyria appointed unto
Hezekiah king of Judah three
hundred talents of silver and
15 thirty talents of gold. And
Hezekiah gave *him* all the silver
that was found in the house of
the LORD, and in the treasures
16 of the king's house. At that
time did Hezekiah cut off *the
gold from* the doors of the tem-
ple of the LORD, and *from* the

[1] Heb. *faithfulness.*
[2] Heb. *Sanherib.*

2 Chronicles 32. 1.

32 After these things, and this
faithfulness, Sennacherib king of
Assyria came, and entered into
Judah, and encamped against
the fenced cities, and thought
2 [1]to win them for himself. And
when Hezekiah saw that Sen-
nacherib was come, and that [2]he
was purposed to fight against
3 Jerusalem, he took counsel with
his princes and his mighty men
to stop the waters of the foun-
tains which were without the
4 city; and they helped him. So
there was gathered much people
together, and they stopped all
the fountains, and the brook that
flowed through the midst of the
land, saying, Why should the
kings of Assyria come, and find
5 much water? And he took

[1] Heb. *to break them up.*
[2] Heb. *his face was to fight.*

[1]pillars which **Hezekiah** king of Judah had overlaid, and gave it to the king of Assyria.

courage, and built up all the wall that was broken down, and [1]raised *it* up to the towers, and [2]the other wall without, and strengthened Millo *in* the city of David, and made weapons
6 and shields in abundance. And he set captains of war over the people, and gathered them together to him in the broad place at the gate of the city, and spake
7 comfortably to them, saying, Be strong and of a good courage, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for [3]there is a greater with us than
8 with him: with him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of **Hezekiah** king of Judah.

*Sennacherib's Emissaries threaten Hezekiah.**

17 And the king of Assyria sent [2]Tartan and [2]Rabsaris and [2]Rabshakeh from Lachish to king Hezekiah with a great army unto Jerusalem. And they went up and came to Jerusalem. And when they were come up, they came and stood by the conduit of the upper pool, which is in the high way of the fuller's field.
18 And when they had called to the king, there came out to them Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household, and Shebnah the [3]scribe, and Joah

9 After this did Sennacherib king of Assyria send his servants to Jerusalem, (now he was before Lachish, and all his power with him,) unto Hezekiah king of Judah, and unto all Judah that were at Jerusalem, saying,

[1] Or, *door posts*
[2] The titles of Assyrian officers.
[3] Or, *secretary*

* [The narrative of 2 Kings, 18—20 is reproduced, with little variation, in Isaiah, 36—39. Hezekiah's song, in the 38th chapter, is the only important addition.]

[1] Or, *heightened the towers* Or, *went up upon the towers* The Vulgate has, *built towers thereon.*
[2] Or, *another*
[3] Or, *there be more*

the son of Asaph the [1]recorder.
19 And Rabshakeh said unto them,
Say ye now to **Hezekiah**, Thus
saith the great king, the king of
Assyria, What confidence is this
20 wherein thou trustest? Thou
sayest, but they are but [2]vain
words, *There is* counsel and
strength for the war. Now on
whom dost thou trust, that thou
21 hast rebelled against me? Now,
behold, thou trustest upon the
staff of this bruised reed, even
upon Egypt; whereon if a man
lean, it will go into his hand, and
pierce it: so is Pharaoh king
of Egypt unto all that trust on
22 him. But if ye say unto me, We
trust in the LORD our God: is
not that he, whose high places
and whose altars Hezekiah hath
taken away, and hath said to
Judah and to Jerusalem, Ye shall
worship before this altar in Je-
23 rusalem? Now therefore, I pray
thee, [3]give pledges to my master
the king of Assyria, and I will
give thee two thousand horses, if
thou be able on thy part to set
24 riders upon them. How then
canst thou turn away the face of
one captain of the least of my
master's servants, and put thy
trust on Egypt for chariots and
25 for horsemen? Am I now come
up without the LORD against
this place to destroy it? The
LORD said unto me, Go up
against this land, and destroy it.
26 Then said Eliakim the son of
Hilkiah, and Shebnah, and Joah,
unto Rabshakeh, Speak, I pray
thee, to thy servants in the
[4]Syrian language; for we under-
stand it: and speak not with us

[1] Or, *chronicler*
[2] Heb. *a word of the lips.*
[3] Or, *make a wager with*
[4] Heb. *Aramean.*

10 Thus saith Sennacherib king
of Assyria, Whereon do ye trust,
that ye abide [1]the siege in Je-
11 rusalem? Doth not **Hezekiah**
persuade you, to give you over
to die by famine and by thirst,
saying, The LORD our God shall
deliver us out of the hand of the
12 king of Assyria? Hath not the
same Hezekiah taken away his
high places and his altars, and
commanded Judah and Jerusa-
lem, saying, Ye shall worship
before one altar, and upon it
shall ye burn incense?

13 Know ye not what I and my
fathers have done unto all the
peoples of the lands? Were the
gods of the nations of the lands
any ways able to deliver their
14 land out of mine hand? Who
was there among all the gods of
those nations which my fathers
[2]utterly destroyed, that could
deliver his people out of mine
hand, that your God should be
able to deliver you out of mine
15 hand? Now therefore let not
Hezekiah deceive you, nor per-
suade you on this manner, neither
believe ye him: for no god of any

[1] Or, *in the strong hold*
[2] Heb. *devoted.*

in the Jews' language, in the ears
of the people that are on the
27 wall. But Rabshakeh said unto
them, Hath my master sent me
to thy master, and to thee, to
speak these words? *hath he* not
sent me to the men which sit on
the wall, to eat their own dung,
and to drink their own water
28 with you? Then Rabshakeh
stood, and cried with a loud
voice in the Jews' language, and
spake, saying, Hear ye the word
of the great king, the king of
29 Assyria. Thus saith the king,
Let not **Hezekiah** deceive you;
for he shall not be able to deliver
30 you out of his hand: neither let
Hezekiah make you trust in
the LORD, saying, The LORD
will surely deliver us, and this
city shall not be given into the
hand of the king of Assyria.
31 Hearken not to Hezekiah: for
thus saith the king of Assyria,
[1]Make your peace with me,
and come out to me; and
eat ye every one of his vine,
and every one of his fig tree,
and drink ye every one the

nation or kingdom was able to
deliver his people out of mine
hand, and out of the hand of my
fathers: how much less shall
your [2]God deliver you out of
16 mine hand? And his servants
spake yet more against the
LORD God, and against his
17 servant **Hezekiah**. He wrote
also [3]letters, to rail on the LORD,
the God of Israel, and to speak
against him, saying, As the gods
of the nations of the lands, which
have not delivered their people
out of mine hand, so shall not
the God of Hezekiah deliver his
18 people out of mine hand. And
they cried with a loud voice in
the Jews' language unto the
people of Jerusalem that were on
the wall, to affright them, and to
trouble them; that they might
19 take the city. And they spake
of the God of Jerusalem, as of
the gods of the peoples of the
earth, which are the work of
20 men's hands. And Hezekiah
the king, and Isaiah the prophet
the son of Amoz, prayed because
of this, and cried to heaven.

2 Kings 18. 31.

32 waters of his own cistern; until I come and take you away to a
land like your own land, a land of corn and wine, a land of bread
and vineyards, a land of oil olive and of honey, that ye may live, and not
die: and hearken not unto Hezekiah, when he persuadeth you, saying,
33 The LORD will deliver us. Hath any of the gods of the nations ever
34 delivered his land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are
the gods of Hamath, and of Arpad? where are the gods of Sepharvaim,
of Hena, and Ivvah? have they delivered Samaria out of my hand?
35 Who are they among all the gods of the countries, that have delivered
their country out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem
36 out of my hand? But the people held their peace, and answered him
not a word: for the king's commandment was, saying, Answer him not.
37 Then came Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, which was over the household,
and Shebna the scribe, and Joah the son of Asaph the recorder, to
Hezekiah with their clothes rent, and told him the words of Rabshakeh.

[1] Heb. *Make with me a blessing.* [2] Or, *gods* [3] Or, *a letter*

Prophecies of Isaiah.

19 And it came to pass, when king **Hezekiah** heard it, that he rent his
clothes, and covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house
2 of the LORD. And he sent Eliakim, which was over the household,
and Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sack-
3 cloth, unto Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz. And they said unto
him, Thus saith Hezekiah, This day is a day of trouble, and of rebuke,
and of contumely: for the children are come to the birth, and there is
4 not strength to bring forth. It may be the LORD thy God will hear all
the words of Rabshakeh, [1]whom the king of Assyria his master hath
sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the
LORD thy God hath heard: wherefore lift up thy prayer for the rem-
5 nant that is left. So the servants of king Hezekiah came to Isaiah.
6 And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus saith
the LORD, Be not afraid of the words that thou hast heard, wherewith
7 the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me. Behold, I
will put a spirit in him, and he shall hear a rumour, and shall return to
his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.
8 So Rabshakeh returned, and found the king of Assyria warring against
9 Libnah: for he had heard that he was departed from Lachish. And
when he heard say of Tirhakah king of Ethiopia, Behold, he is come
out to fight against thee: he sent messengers again unto Hezekiah,
10 saying, Thus shall ye speak to Hezekiah king of Judah, saying, Let not
thy God in whom thou trustest deceive thee, saying, Jerusalem shall not
11 be given into the hand of the king of Assyria. Behold, thou hast heard
what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by [2]destroying them
12 utterly: and shalt thou be delivered? Have the gods of the nations
delivered them, which my fathers have destroyed, Gozan, and Haran,
13 and Rezeph, and the children of Eden which were in Telassar? Where
is the king of Hamath, and the king of Arpad, and the king of the city
14 of Sepharvaim, of Hena, and Ivvah? And Hezekiah received the
letter from the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah
went up unto the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.
15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD, the God of
Israel, that [3]sittest upon the cherubim, thou art the God, even thou
alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and
16 earth. Incline thine ear, O LORD, and hear; open thine eyes, O
LORD, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, wherewith he
17 hath sent him to reproach the living God. Of a truth, LORD, the
18 kings of Assyria have laid waste the nations and their lands, and have
cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of
men's hands, wood and stone; therefore they have destroyed them.
19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, save thou us, I beseech thee, out of
his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know [4]that thou art
the LORD God, even thou only.

[1] Or, *wherewith the king of Assyria hath sent him*
[2] Heb. *devoting them.*
[3] Or, *dwellest between*
[4] Or, *that thou, O LORD, art God*

20 Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to **Hezekiah**, saying, Thus saith
the LORD, the God of Israel, Whereas thou hast prayed to me against
21 Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard *thee.* This is the word that
the LORD hath spoken concerning him: The virgin daughter of Zion
hath despised thee and laughed thee to scorn; the daughter of Jerusalem
22 hath shaken her head [1]at thee. Whom hast thou reproached and
blasphemed? and against whom hast thou exalted thy voice and lifted
23 up thine eyes on high? *even* against the Holy One of Israel. By thy
messengers thou hast reproached the Lord, and hast said, With the
[2]multitude of my chariots am I come up to the height of the mountains,
to the innermost parts of Lebanon; and I will cut down the tall cedars
thereof, and the choice [3]fir trees thereof: and I will enter into his
24 farthest lodging place, the forest of his fruitful field. I have digged and
drunk strange waters, and with the sole of my feet will I dry up all the
25 rivers of [4]Egypt. Hast thou not heard how I have done it long ago,
and formed it of ancient times? now have I brought it to pass, that
26 thou shouldest be to lay waste fenced cities into ruinous heaps. Therefore their inhabitants were of small power, they were dismayed and
confounded; they were as the grass of the field, and as the green herb,
as the grass on the housetops, and as corn blasted before it be grown
27 up. But I know thy sitting down, and thy going out, and thy coming
28 in, and thy raging against me. Because of thy raging against me, and
for that [5]thine arrogancy is come up into mine ears, therefore will I put
my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee
29 back by the way by which thou camest. And this shall be the sign
unto thee: ye shall eat this year that which groweth of itself, and in the
second year that which springeth of the same; and in the third year sow
30 ye, and reap, and plant vineyards, and eat the fruit thereof. And [6]the
remnant that is escaped of the house of Judah shall again take root
31 downward, and bear fruit upward. For out of Jerusalem shall go forth
a remnant, and out of mount Zion they that shall escape: the zeal of
32 [7]the LORD shall perform this. Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning
the king of Assyria, He shall not come unto this city, nor shoot an
arrow there, neither shall he come before it with shield, nor cast a
33 mount against it. By the way that he came, by the same shall he
34 return, and he shall not come unto this city, saith the LORD. For I
will defend this city to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant
David's sake.

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[1] Heb. *after.*
[2] According to another reading, *driving.*
[3] Or, *cypress*
[4] Or, *defence* Heb. *Mazor.*
[5] Or, *thy careless ease*
[6] Heb. *the escaped of the house of Judah that remain.*
[7] According to another reading, *the LORD of hosts* and so in Is. xxxvii. 32.

Sennacherib's Army is smitten and retreats.

35 And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when men arose early in the morning, behold, they 36 were all dead corpses. So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and 37 dwelt at Nineveh. And it came to pass, as he was worshipping in the house of Nisroch his god, that [1]Adrammelech and Sharezer smote him with the sword: and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esar-haddon his son reigned in his stead.

21 And the LORD sent an angel, which cut off all the mighty men of valour, and the leaders and captains, in the camp of the king of Assyria. So he returned with shame of face to his own land. And when he was come into the house of his god, they that came forth of his own bowels [1]slew 22 him there with the sword. Thus the LORD saved **Hezekiah** and the inhabitants of Jerusalem from the hand of Sennacherib the king of Assyria, and from the hand of all *other*, and guided 23 them on every side. And many brought gifts unto the LORD to Jerusalem, and precious things to Hezekiah king of Judah: so that he was exalted in the sight of all nations from thenceforth.

Hezekiah's Sickness.

20 In those days was **Hezekiah** sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt 2 die, and not live. Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying, 3 Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. 4 And Hezekiah wept sore. And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone [2]out into [3]the middle

24 In those days Hezekiah was sick even unto death: and he prayed unto the LORD; and he spake unto him, and gave him a [2]sign.

[1] According to another reading, *Adrammelech and Sharezer his sons* and so in Is. xxxvii. 38.
[2] Or, *out of*
[3] According to another reading, *the middle court.*

[1] Heb. *caused him to fall.*
[2] Or, *wonder*

5 part of the city, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying, Turn again, and say to **Hezekiah** the [1]prince of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go 6 up unto the house of the LORD. And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my 7 servant David's sake. And Isaiah said, Take a cake of figs. And they 8 took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered. And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and 9 that I shall go up unto the house of the LORD the third day? And Isaiah said, This shall be the sign unto thee from the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: [2]shall the shadow go 10 forward ten [3]steps, or go back ten steps? And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to decline ten steps: nay, but let the 11 shadow return backward ten steps. And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten steps backward, by which it had gone down on the [4]dial of Ahaz.

Hezekiah receives an Embassy from the King of Babylon.

2 Kings 20. 12.

12 At that time [5]Berodach-baladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present unto Hezekiah: for he had heard that Hezekiah had 13 been sick. And Hezekiah hearkened unto them, and shewed them all the house of his [6]precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious oil, and [7]the house of his [8]armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed 14 them not. Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said

[1] Or, *leader*
[2] Or, *the shadow is gone forward ten steps, shall it go back &c.*
[3] Or, *degrees*
[4] Heb. *steps.*
[5] In Is. xxxix. 1, *Merodach-baladan.*
[6] Or, *spicery*
[7] Another reading is, *all the house.*
[8] Or, *jewels*

2 Chronicles 32. 25.

25 But Hezekiah rendered not again according to the benefit done unto him; for his heart was lifted up: therefore there was wrath upon him, and upon 26 Judah and Jerusalem. Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for [1]the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD came not upon them in the days of 27 Hezekiah. And Hezekiah had exceeding much riches and honour: and he provided him treasuries for silver, and for gold, and for precious stones, and for spices, and for shields, and for all manner of goodly ves- 28 sels; storehouses also for the increase of corn and wine and oil; and stalls for all manner of 29 beasts, and flocks in folds. Moreover he provided him cities, and

[1] Heb. *the lifting up.*

these men? and from whence
came they unto thee? And
Hezekiah said, They are come
from a far country, even from
15 Babylon. And he said, What
have they seen in thine house?
And Hezekiah answered, All
that is in mine house have they
seen: there is nothing among
my treasures that I have not
16 shewed them. And Isaiah said
unto Hezekiah, Hear the word
17 of the LORD, Behold, the days
come, that all that is in thine
house, and that which thy fathers
have laid up in store unto this
day, shall be carried to Babylon:
nothing shall be left, saith the
18 LORD. And of thy sons that
shall issue from thee, which thou
shalt beget, shall they take away;
and they shall be eunuchs in the
palace of the king of Babylon.
19 Then said Hezekiah unto Is-
aiah, Good is the word of the
LORD which thou hast spoken.
He said moreover, Is it not so,
if peace and truth shall be in my
20 days? Now the rest of the acts
of Hezekiah, and all his might,
and how he made the pool, and
the conduit, and brought water
into the city, are they not written
in the book of the chronicles of
21 the kings of Judah? And Heze-
kiah slept with his fathers: and
Manasseh his son reigned in his
stead.

possessions of flocks and herds in
abundance: for God had given
him very much substance. This
30 same **Hezekiah** also stopped
the upper spring of the waters of
Gihon, and brought them straight
down on the west side of the city
of David. And Hezekiah pros-
31 pered in all his works. Howbeit
in *the business of* the [1]ambassadors
of the princes of Babylon, who
sent unto him to inquire of the
wonder that was done in the
land, God left him, to try him,
that he might know all that was
32 in his heart. Now the rest of
the acts of Hezekiah, and his
good deeds, behold, they are
written in the vision of Isaiah
the prophet the son of Amoz, in
the book of the kings of Judah
33 and Israel. And Hezekiah slept
with his fathers, and they buried
him in the ascent of the sepul-
chres of the sons of David: and
all Judah and the inhabitants of
Jerusalem did him honour at his
death. And Manasseh his son
reigned in his stead.

Restoration of Idolatry by Manasseh.

21 **Manasseh** was twelve years
old when he began to reign;
and he reigned five and fifty
years in Jerusalem: and his
mother's name was Hephzi-bah.
2 And he did that which was evil
in the sight of the LORD, after

33 **Manasseh** was twelve years
old when he began to reign;
and he reigned fifty and five
2 years in Jerusalem. And he did
that which was evil in the sight
of the LORD, after the abomina-
tions of the heathen, whom the

[1] Heb. *interpreters.*

the abominations of the heathen,
whom the LORD cast out before
3 the children of Israel. For he
built again the high places which
Hezekiah his father had de-
stroyed; and he reared up altars
for Baal, and made an Asherah,
as did Ahab king of Israel, and
worshipped all the host of heaven,
4 and served them. And he built
altars in the house of the LORD,
whereof the LORD said, In Jeru-
5 salem will I put my name. And
he built altars for all the host of
heaven in the two courts of the
6 house of the LORD. And he
made his son to pass through
the fire, and practised augury,
and used enchantments, and
[1] dealt with them that had familiar
spirits, and with wizards: he
wrought much evil in the sight
of the LORD, to provoke him to
7 anger. And he set the graven
image of Asherah, that he had
made, in the house of which the
LORD said to David and to
Solomon his son, In this house,
and in Jerusalem, which I have
chosen out of all the tribes of
Israel, will I put my name for
8 ever: neither will I cause the
feet of Israel to wander any
more out of the land which I
gave their fathers; if only they
will observe to do according
to all that I have commanded
them, and according to all the law
that my servant Moses command-
9 ed them. But they hearkened
not: and **Manasseh** seduced
them to do that which is evil
more than did the nations, whom
the LORD destroyed before the
10 children of Israel. And the
LORD spake by his servants the
11 prophets, saying, Because Ma-
nasseh king of Judah hath done

[1] Or, *appointed* Heb. *made.*

LORD cast out before the children
of Israel.
3 For he built again the high
places which Hezekiah his father
had broken down; and he reared
up altars for the Baalim, and
made Asheroth, and worshipped
all the host of heaven, and served
them.
4 And he built altars in the house
of the LORD, whereof the LORD
said, In Jerusalem shall my name
5 be for ever. And he built altars
for all the host of heaven in the
two courts of the house of the
LORD.
6 He also made his children to
pass through the fire in the valley
of the son of Hinnom: and he
practised augury, and used en-
chantments, and practised sor-
cery, and dealt with them that
had familiar spirits, and with
wizards: he wrought much evil
in the sight of the LORD, to
7 provoke him to anger. And he
set the graven image of the idol,
which he had made, in the house
of God, of which God said to
David and to Solomon his son,
In this house, and in Jerusalem,
which I have chosen out of all
the tribes of Israel, will I put
8 my name for ever: neither will I
any more remove the foot of
Israel from off the land which I
have appointed for your fathers;
if only they will observe to do
all that I have commanded them,
even all the law and the statutes
and the ordinances by the hand
9 of Moses. And **Manasseh**
made Judah and the inhabitants
of Jerusalem to err, so that they
did evil more than did the nations,
whom the LORD destroyed before
10 the children of Israel. And the
LORD spake to Manasseh, and
to his people: but they gave no
heed.

these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites
did, which were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his
12 idols: therefore thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I bring
such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both
13 his ears shall tingle. And I will stretch over Jerusalem the line of
Samaria, and the plummet of the house of Ahab: and I will wipe
Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down.
14 And I will cast off the remnant of mine inheritance, and deliver them
into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become a prey and a
15 spoil to all their enemies; because they have done that which is evil in
my sight, and have provoked me to anger, since the day their fathers
16 came forth out of Egypt, even unto this day. Moreover **Manasseh**
shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one
end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in
doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

2 Chronicles 33. 11.

Manasseh's Captivity and Restoration.

11 Wherefore the LORD brought upon them the captains of the host of
the king of Assyria, which took **Manasseh** [1]in chains, and bound him
12 with fetters, and carried him to Babylon. And when he was in distress,
he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the
13 God of his fathers. And he prayed unto him; and he was intreated of
him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem
into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God.
14 Now after this he built an outer wall to the city of David, on the west
side of Gihon, in the valley, even to the entering in at the fish gate; and
he compassed about Ophel, and raised it up a very great height: and he
15 put [2]valiant captains in all the fenced cities of Judah. And he took
away the strange gods, and the idol out of the house of the LORD, and
all the altars that he had built in the mount of the house of the LORD,
16 and in Jerusalem, and cast them out of the city. And he [3]built up the
altar of the LORD, and offered thereon sacrifices of peace offerings and
of thanksgiving, and commanded Judah to serve the LORD, the God
17 of Israel. Nevertheless the people did sacrifice still in the high places,
but only unto the LORD their God.

[1] Or, *with hooks*
[2] Or, *captains of the army*
[3] According to another reading, *prepared.*

17 Now the rest of the acts of **Manasseh**, and all that he did, and his sin that he sinned, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?
18 And Manasseh slept with his fathers, and was buried in the garden of his own house, in the garden of Uzza: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

18 Now the rest of the acts of **Manasseh**, and his prayer unto his God, and the words of the seers that spake to him in the name of the LORD, the God of Israel, behold, they are written among the acts of the
19 kings of Israel. His prayer also, and how *God* was intreated of him, and all his sin and his trespass, and the places wherein he built high places, and set up the Asherim and the graven images, before he humbled himself: behold, they are written
20 in the history of [1]Hozai. So Manasseh slept with his fathers, and they buried him in his own house: and Amon his son reigned in his stead.

Amon's Reign and his Murder.

19 **Amon** was twenty and two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned two years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah.
20 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did
21 Manasseh his father. And he walked in all the way that his father walked in, and served the idols that his father served, and
22 worshipped them: and he forsook the LORD, the God of his fathers, and walked not in the
23 way of the LORD. And the servants of Amon conspired against him, and put the king to death
24 in his own house. But the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against *king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in
25 his stead. Now the rest of the acts of Amon which he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Judah?

21 **Amon** was twenty and two years old when he began to reign; and he reigned two years
22 in Jerusalem. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, as did Manasseh his father: and Amon sacrificed unto all the graven images which Manasseh his father had made, and
23 served them. And he humbled not himself before the LORD, as Manasseh his father had humbled himself; but this same Amon
24 [2]trespassed more and more. And his servants conspired against him, and put him to death in his
25 own house. But the people of the land slew all them that had conspired against king Amon; and the people of the land made Josiah his son king in his stead.

[1] Or, *the seers* So the Sept.
[2] Or, *became guilty*

26 And he was buried in his sepulchre in the garden of Uzza: and Josiah his son reigned in his stead.

Josiah's Restoration of the Temple.

22 **Josiah** was eight years old when he began to reign; and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter
2 of Adaiah of Bozkath. And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.
3 And it came to pass in the eighteenth year of king Josiah, that the king sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, the son of Meshullam, the scribe, to the house
4 of the LORD, saying, Go up to Hilkiah the high priest, that he may sum the money which is brought into the house of the LORD, which the keepers of the [1]door have gathered of the
5 people: and let them deliver it into the hand of the workmen that have the oversight of the house of the LORD: and let them give it to the workmen which are in the house of the LORD, to repair the breaches of
6 the house; unto the carpenters, and to the builders, and to the masons; and for buying timber and hewn stone to repair the
7 house. Howbeit there was no reckoning made with them of the money that was delivered into their hand; for they dealt faithfully.

[1] Heb. *threshold.*

34 **Josiah** was eight years old when he began to reign; and he reigned thirty and one years in
2 Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

[for *vv.* 3—7 see p. 104]

8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the [1]recorder, to repair the house
9 of the LORD his God. And they came to Hilkiah the high priest, and delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites, the keepers of the [2]door, had gathered of the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, and of all the remnant of Israel, and of all Judah and Benjamin, [3]and of the inhabitants of Jerusalem.
10 And they delivered it into the hand of the workmen that had the oversight of the house of the LORD; and [4]the workmen that wrought in the house of the LORD gave it to amend and
11 repair the house; even to the carpenters and to the builders gave they it, to buy hewn stone,

[1] Or, *chronicler*
[2] Heb. *threshold.*
[3] Another reading is, *and they returned to Jerusalem.*
[4] Or, *they gave it* to *the workmen &c.*

and timber for couplings, and to make beams for the houses which the kings of Judah had de-
12 stroyed. And the men did the work faithfully: and the overseers of them were Jahath and Obadiah, the Levites, of the sons of Merari; and Zechariah and Meshullam, of the sons of the Kohathites, [1]to set it forward: and *other of* the Levites, all that could skill of instruments of music.
13 Also they were over the bearers of burdens, and set forward all that did the work in every manner of service: and of the Levites there were scribes, and officers,
14 and porters. And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the LORD, Hilkiah the priest found the book of the law of the LORD [2]given by Moses.

Discovery of the Book of the Law, and the Prophecy of Huldah.

8 And Hilkiah the high priest said unto Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah delivered the book to
9 Shaphan, and he read it. And Shaphan the scribe came to the king, and brought the king word again, and said, Thy servants have [1]emptied out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workmen that have the oversight of the house of the
10 LORD. And Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read it
11 before the king. And it came to pass, when the king had

[1] Or, *poured out*

15 And Hilkiah answered and said to Shaphan the scribe, I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD. And Hilkiah delivered the book to
16 Shaphan. And Shaphan carried the book to the king, and moreover brought the king word again, saying, All that was committed to thy servants, they do
17 it. And they have [3]emptied out the money that was found in the house of the LORD, and have delivered it into the hand of the overseers, and into the hand of
18 the workmen. And Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, Hilkiah the priest hath delivered me a book. And Shaphan read
19 therein before the king. And it came to pass, when the king had

[1] Or, *to preside over it*
[2] Heb. *by the hand of.* [3] Or, *poured out*

heard the words of the book of
the law, that he rent his clothes.
12 And the king commanded Hilkiah
the priest, and Ahikam the son
of Shaphan, and Achbor the son
of Micaiah, and Shaphan the
scribe, and Asaiah the king's
13 servant, saying, Go ye, inquire of
the LORD for me, and for the
people, and for all Judah, con-
cerning the words of this book
that is found: for great is the
wrath of the LORD that is kindled
against us, because our fathers
have not hearkened unto the
words of this book, to do accord-
ing unto all that which is [1]written
14 concerning us. So Hilkiah the
priest, and Ahikam, and Achbor,
and Shaphan, and Asaiah, went
unto Huldah the prophetess, the
wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah,
the son of Harhas, keeper of the
wardrobe; (now she dwelt in
Jerusalem in the [2]second quar-
ter;) and they communed with
15 her. And she said unto them,
Thus saith the LORD, the God of
Israel: Tell ye the man that
16 sent you unto me, Thus saith
the LORD, Behold, I will bring
evil upon this place, and upon
the inhabitants thereof, even all
the words of the book which the
17 king of Judah hath read: because
they have forsaken me, and have
burned incense unto other gods,
that they might provoke me to
anger with all the work of their
hands; therefore my wrath shall
be kindled against this place,
and it shall not be quenched.
18 But unto the king of Judah, who
sent you to inquire of the LORD,
thus shall ye say to him, Thus
saith the LORD, the God of
Israel: As touching the words

[1] Or, *enjoined us*
[2] Heb. *Mishneh.*

heard the words of the law, that
20 he rent his clothes. And the
king commanded Hilkiah, and
Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and
Abdon the son of Micah, and
Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah
21 the king's servant, saying, Go ye,
inquire of the LORD for me, and
for them that are left in Israel
and in Judah, concerning the
words of the book that is found:
for great is the wrath of the
LORD that is poured out upon
us, because our fathers have not
kept the word of the LORD, to
do according unto all that is
22 written in this book. So Hilkiah,
and they whom the king *had
commanded*, went to Huldah the
prophetess, the wife of Shallum
the son of Tokhath, the son of
Hasrah, keeper of the wardrobe;
(now she dwelt in Jerusalem in
the [1]second quarter;) and they
23 spake to her to that effect. And
she said unto them, Thus saith
the LORD, the God of Israel:
Tell ye the man that sent you
24 unto me, Thus saith the LORD,
Behold, I will bring evil upon
this place, and upon the inhabit-
ants thereof, even all the curses
that are written in the book
which they have read before the
25 king of Judah: because they
have forsaken me, and have
burned incense unto other gods,
that they might provoke me to
anger with all the works of their
hands; therefore is my wrath
poured out upon this place, and
26 it shall not be quenched. But
unto the king of Judah, who
sent you to inquire of the LORD,
thus shall ye say to him, Thus
saith the LORD, the God of
Israel: As touching the words

[1] Heb. *Mishneh.*

19 which thou hast heard, because
thine heart was tender, and thou
didst humble thyself before the
LORD, when thou heardest what
I spake against this place, and
against the inhabitants thereof,
that they should become [1]a
desolation and a curse, and hast
rent thy clothes, and wept before
me; I also have heard thee, saith
20 the LORD. Therefore, behold, I
will gather thee to thy fathers, and
thou shalt be gathered to thy
grave in peace, neither shall
thine eyes see all the evil which
I will bring upon this place.
And they brought the king word
again.

27 which thou hast heard, because
thine heart was tender, and thou
didst humble thyself before God,
when thou heardest his words
against this place, and against
the inhabitants thereof, and hast
humbled thyself before me, and
hast rent thy clothes, and wept
before me; I also have heard
28 thee, saith the LORD. Behold,
I will gather thee to thy fathers,
and thou shalt be gathered to
thy grave in peace, neither shall
thine eyes see all the evil that I
will bring upon this place, and
upon the inhabitants thereof.
And they brought the king word
again.

The Book of the Law read in public.

23 And the king sent, and they
gathered unto him all the elders
2 of Judah and of Jerusalem. And
the king went up to the house of
the LORD, and all the men of
Judah and all the inhabitants of
Jerusalem with him, and the
priests, and the prophets, and
all the people, both small and
great: and he read in their ears
all the words of the book of the
covenant which was found in the
3 house of the LORD. And the
king stood [2]by the pillar, and
made a covenant before the
LORD, to walk after the LORD,
and to keep his commandments,
and his testimonies, and his
statutes, with all *his* heart, and
all *his* soul, to [3]confirm the
words of this covenant that were
written in this book: and all the
people stood to the covenant.

29 Then the king sent and gath-
ered together all the elders of
30 Judah and Jerusalem. And the
king went up to the house of the
LORD, and all the men of Judah
and the inhabitants of Jerusalem,
and the priests, and the Levites,
and all the people, both great
and small: and he read in their
ears all the words of the book of
the covenant that was found in
31 the house of the LORD. And
the king stood in his place, and
made a covenant before the
LORD, to walk after the LORD,
and to keep his commandments,
and his testimonies, and his
statutes, with all his heart, and
with all his soul, to perform the
words of the covenant that were
32 written in this book. And he
caused all that were found in
Jerusalem and Benjamin to stand
to it. And the inhabitants of
Jerusalem did according to the
covenant of God, the God of
33 their fathers. And **Josiah** took
away all the abominations out of
all the countries that pertained

[1] Or, *an astonishment*
[2] Or, *on the platform*
[3] Or, *perform*

to the children of Israel, and made all that were found in Israel to serve, even to serve the LORD their God. All his days they departed not from following the LORD, the God of their fathers.

Suppression of Idolatry. Destruction of the High Places and of the Altar at Bethel.

4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the [1]door, to bring forth out of the temple of the LORD all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the Asherah, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes
5 of them unto Beth-el. And he put down the [2]idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the [3]planets, and to all the host of
6 heaven. And he brought out the Asherah from the house of the LORD, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the [4]common
7 people. And he brake down the houses of the [5]sodomites, that were in the house of the LORD, where the women wove

[1] Heb. *threshold.*
[2] Heb. *Chemarim.* See Hos. x. 5, Zeph. i. 4.
[3] Or, *twelve signs*
[4] Heb. *children of the people.*
[5] See 1 Kings xiv. 24, xv. 12.

3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the Asherim, and the graven images, and the
4 molten images. And they brake down the altars of the Baalim in his presence; and the sun-images, that were on high above them, he hewed down; and the Asherim, and the graven images, and the molten images, he brake in pieces, and made dust of them, and strowed it upon the graves *of them* that had sacrificed unto
5 them. And he burnt the bones of the priests upon their altars, and purged Judah and Jerusalem.
6 And *so did he* in the cities of Manasseh and Ephraim and Simeon, even unto Naphtali, [1]in
7 their ruins round about. And he brake down the altars, and beat the Asherim and the graven images into powder, and hewed down all the sun-images throughout all the land of Israel, and returned to Jerusalem.

[1] Or, as otherwise read, *with their axes* The text is probably corrupt.

8 [1]hangings for the Asherah. And he brought all the priests out of
the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests
had burned incense, from Geba to Beer-sheba; and he brake down
the high places of the gates that were at the entering in of the
gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on a man's
9 left hand at the gate of the city. Nevertheless the priests of the
high places came not up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem,
10 but they did eat unleavened bread among their brethren. And he
defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the [2]children of Hinnom,
that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the
11 fire to Molech. And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah
had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the LORD, by
the chamber of Nathan-melech the chamberlain, which was in the
12 precincts; and he burned the chariots of the sun with fire. And the
altars that were on the roof of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the
kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in
the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king break down, and
[3]beat *them* down from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook
13 Kidron. And the high places that were before Jerusalem, which were
on the right hand of the mount of [4]corruption, which Solomon the king
of Israel had builded for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Zidonians,
and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the
14 abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile. And he
brake in pieces the [5]pillars, and cut down the Asherim, and filled their
15 places with the bones of men. Moreover the altar that was at Beth-el,
and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel
to sin, had made, even that altar and the high place he brake down;
and he burned the high place and stamped it small to powder, and
16 burned the Asherah. And as **Josiah** turned himself, he spied the
sepulchres that were there in the mount; and he sent, and took the
bones out of the sepulchres, and burned them upon the altar, and
defiled it, according to the word of the LORD which the man of God
17 proclaimed, who proclaimed these things. Then he said, What
monument is that which I see? And the men of the city told him, It
is the sepulchre of the man of God, which came from Judah, and
proclaimed these things that thou hast done against the altar of Beth-el.
18 And he said, Let him be; let no man move his bones. So they let his
bones alone, with the bones of the prophet that came out of Samaria.
19 And all the houses also of the high places that were in the cities of
Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made to provoke *the LORD* to
anger, Josiah took away, and did to them according to all the acts that
20 he had done in Beth-el. And he [6]slew all the priests of the high places
that were there, upon the altars, and burned men's bones upon them;
and he returned to Jerusalem.

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[1] Or, *tents* Heb. *houses*.
[2] According to another reading, *son*.
[3] Or, *ran from thence*
[4] Or, *destruction*
[5] Or, *obelisks*
[6] Or, *sacrificed*

The Passover kept.

21 And the king commanded all
the people, saying, Keep the
passover unto the LORD your
God, as it is written in this book
22 of the covenant. Surely there
was not kept such a passover
from the days of the judges that
judged Israel, [1]nor in all the
days of the kings of Israel, nor
23 of the kings of Judah; but in the
eighteenth year of king **Josiah**
was this passover kept to the
LORD in Jerusalem.

[1] Or, *even in all...and of*

35 And **Josiah** kept a passover
unto the LORD in Jerusalem: and
they killed the passover on the
fourteenth *day* of the first month.
2 And he set the priests in their
charges, and encouraged them to
the service of the house of the
3 LORD. And he said unto the
Levites that taught all Israel,
which were holy unto the LORD,
Put the holy ark in the house
which Solomon the son of David
king of Israel did build; there
shall no more be a burden upon
your shoulders: now serve the
LORD your God, and his people
4 Israel. And prepare yourselves
after your fathers' houses by your
courses, according to the writing
of David king of Israel, and
according to the writing of Solo-
5 mon his son. And stand in the
holy place according to the
divisions of the fathers' houses
of your brethren the children of
the people, [1]and *let there be for*
each a portion of a fathers' house
6 of the Levites. And kill the
passover, and sanctify yourselves,
and prepare for your brethren,
to do according to the word of
the LORD by the hand of Moses.
7 And Josiah [2]gave to the children
of the people, of the flock, lambs
and kids, all of them for the
passover offerings, unto all that
were present, to the number of
thirty thousand, and three thou-
sand bullocks: these were of the
8 king's substance. And his princes
gave [3]for a freewill offering unto

[1] Or, *and* according to *the distribution of each fathers' house*
[2] Or, *gave for offerings* and so in verses 8, 9. See ch. xxx. 24.
[3] Or, *willingly*

the people, to the priests, and to the Levites. Hilkiah and Zechariah and Jehiel, the rulers of the house of God, gave unto the priests for the passover offerings two thousand and six hundred *small*
9 *cattle*, and three hundred oxen. Conaniah also, and Shemaiah and Nethanel, his brethren, and Hashabiah and Jeiel and Jozabad, the chiefs of the Levites, gave unto the Levites for the passover offerings
10 five thousand *small cattle*, and five hundred oxen. So the service was prepared, and the priests stood in their place, and the Levites by their
11 courses, according to the king's commandment. And they killed the passover, and the priests sprinkled *the blood*, *which they received* of their
12 hand, and the Levites flayed them. And they removed the burnt offerings, that they might give them according to the divisions of the fathers' houses of the children of the people, to offer unto the LORD, as it is written in the book of Moses. And so did they with the oxen.
13 And they roasted the passover with fire according to the ordinance: and the holy offerings sod they in pots, and in caldrons, and in pans, and
14 carried them quickly to all the children of the people. And afterward they prepared for themselves, and for the priests; because the priests the sons of Aaron *were busied* in offering the burnt offerings and the fat until night: therefore the Levites prepared for themselves, and for the
15 priests the sons of Aaron. And the singers the sons of Asaph were in their place, according to the commandment of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun the king's seer; and the porters were at every gate: they needed not to depart from their service, for their brethren
16 the Levites prepared for them. So all the service of the LORD was prepared the same day, to keep the passover, and to offer burnt offerings upon the altar of the LORD, according to the commandment of
17 king **Josiah**. And the children of Israel that were present kept the passover at that time, and the feast of unleavened bread seven days.
18 And there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did any of the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah
19 and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah was this passover kept.

2 Kings 23. 24.

24 Moreover them that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, and the teraphim, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might [1]confirm the words of the law which were written in the book
25 that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD. And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the
26 law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him. Notwithstanding the LORD turned not from the fierceness of his great wrath, wherewith his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the

[1] Or, *perform*

provocations that Manasseh had
27 provoked him withal. And the
LORD said, I will remove Judah
also out of my sight, as I have
removed Israel, and I will cast
off this city which I have chosen,
even Jerusalem, and the house
of which I said, My name shall
28 be there. Now the rest of the
acts of **Josiah**, and all that he
did, are they not written in the
book of the chronicles of the
kings of Judah?

Defeat and Death of Josiah.

29 In his days Pharaoh-necoh
king of Egypt went up against
the king of Assyria to the river
Euphrates: and king Josiah
went against him; and he slew
him at Megiddo, when he had
30 seen him. And his servants
carried him in a chariot dead
from Megiddo, and brought him
to Jerusalem, and buried him in
his own sepulchre.

20 After all this, when **Josiah**
had prepared the temple, Neco
king of Egypt went up to
fight against Carchemish by
Euphrates: and Josiah went
21 out against him. But he sent
ambassadors to him, saying,
What have I to do with thee,
thou king of Judah? *I come*
not against thee this day, but
against the house wherewith I
have war; and God [1]hath com-
manded me to make haste: for-
bear thee from *meddling with*
God, who is with me, that he
22 destroy thee not. Nevertheless
Josiah would not turn his face
from him, but disguised himself,
that he might fight with him, and
hearkened not unto the words of
Neco, from the mouth of God,
and came to fight in the valley
23 of Megiddo. And the archers
shot at king Josiah; and the
king said to his servants, Have
me away; for I am sore wound-
24 ed. So his servants took him
out of the chariot, and put him
in the second chariot that he had,
and brought him to Jerusalem;
and he died, and was buried in
the sepulchres of his fathers.

[1] Or, *hath given command to speed me*

And all Judah and Jerusalem
25 mourned for **Josiah**. And Jeremiah lamented for Josiah: and all the singing men and singing women spake of Josiah in their lamentations, unto this day; and they made them an ordinance in Israel: and, behold, they are written in the lamentations.
26 Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his good deeds, according to that which is written
27 in the law of the LORD, and his acts, first and last, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Reigns of Jehoahaz and Jehoiakim.

And the people of the land took **Jehoahaz** the son of Josiah, and anointed him, and made him king in his father's stead.
31 Jehoahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Hamutal the daughter of Jeremiah of Libnah.
32 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had
33 done. And Pharaoh-necoh put him in bands at Riblah in the land of Hamath, [1]that he might not reign in Jerusalem; and put the land to a [2]tribute of an hundred talents of silver, and a
34 talent of gold. And Pharaoh-necoh made **Eliakim** the son of Josiah king in the room of Josiah his father, and changed his name to **Jehoiakim**: but he took Jehoahaz away; and he came to Egypt, and died there.
35 And Jehoiakim gave the silver and the gold to Pharaoh; but he

36 Then the people of the land took **Jehoahaz** the son of Josiah, and made him king in his father's stead in Jerusalem.
2 Joahaz was twenty and three years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three
3 months in Jerusalem. And the king of Egypt deposed him at Jerusalem, and amerced the land in an hundred talents of silver
4 and a talent of gold. And the king of Egypt made **Eliakim** his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to **Jehoiakim**. And Neco took Joahaz his brother, and carried him to Egypt.

[1] According to another reading, *when he reigned.*
[2] Or, *fine*

taxed the land to give the money according to the commandment of Pharaoh: he exacted the silver and the gold of the people of the land, of every one according to his taxation, to give it unto Pharaoh-necoh.

36 **Jehoiakim** was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and his mother's name was Zebidah the daughter of Pedaiah of Rumah.
37 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his fathers had
24 done. In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years: then he turned and rebelled against him.
2 And the LORD sent against him bands of the Chaldeans, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by the hand of his servants the pro-
3 phets. Surely at the commandment of the LORD came this upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that
4 he did; and also for the innocent blood that he shed; for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; and the LORD would not pardon.
5 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of
6 Judah? So Jehoiakim slept with his fathers: and **Jehoiachin** his son reigned in his stead.
7 And the king of Egypt came not again any more out of his land: for the king of Babylon had taken, from the brook of Egypt

5 **Jehoiakim** was twenty and five years old when he began to reign; and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight
6 of the LORD his God. Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters, to carry him to Baby-
7 lon. Nebuchadnezzar also carried of the vessels of the house of the LORD to Babylon, and put them in his [1] temple at Baby-
8 lon. Now the rest of the acts of Jehoiakim, and his abominations which he did, and that which was found [2] in him, behold, they are written in the book of the kings of Israel and Judah: and [3] **Jehoiachin** his son reigned in his stead.

[1] Or, *palace*
[2] Or, *against*
[3] In 1 Chr. iii. 16, *Jeconiah*. In Jer. xxii. 24, *Coniah*.

unto the river Euphrates, all that pertained to the king of Egypt.

Jehoiachin carried to Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar.

8 **Jehoiachin** was eighteen years old when he began to reign; and he reigned in Jerusalem three months: and his mother's name was Nehushta the daughter of Elnathan of Jeru-
9 salem. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father
10 had done. At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up to Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.
11 And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came unto the city, while his servants were besieging
12 it; and Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his [1]officers: and the king of Babylon took him in the
13 eighth year of his reign. And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the LORD,
14 as the LORD had said. And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and the smiths; none remained, save the poorest sort of the
15 people of the land. And he carried away Jehoiachin to Babylon; and the king's mother, and the king's wives, and his [1]officers, and the [2]chief men of the land,

[1] Or, *eunuchs* [2] Or, *mighty*

9 **Jehoiachin** was eight years old when he began to reign; and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the
10 sight of the LORD. And [1]at the return of the year king Nebuchadnezzar sent, and brought him to Babylon, with the goodly vessels of the house of the LORD, and made **Zedekiah** his brother king over Judah and Jerusalem.

[1] See 2 Sam. xi. 1.

carried he into captivity from
16 Jerusalem to Babylon. And all
the men of might, even seven
thousand, and the craftsmen and
the smiths a thousand, all of
them strong and apt for war,
even them the king of Babylon
brought captive to Babylon.
17 And the king of Babylon made
Mattaniah his father's brother
king in his stead, and changed
his name to **Zedekiah**.

Zedekiah rebels against Nebuchadnezzar. Fall of Jerusalem.

18 [1]Zedekiah was twenty and
one years old when he began to
reign; and he reigned eleven
years in Jerusalem: and his
mother's name was [2]Hamutal
the daughter of Jeremiah of
19 Libnah. And he did that which
was evil in the sight of the LORD,
according to all that Jehoiakim
20 had done. For through the
anger of the LORD did it come
to pass in Jerusalem and Judah,
until he had cast them out from
his presence: and Zedekiah
rebelled against the king of
25 Babylon. And it came to pass
in the ninth year of his reign, in
the tenth month, in the tenth
day of the month, that Nebu-
chadnezzar king of Babylon
came, he and all his army,
against Jerusalem, and encamped
against it; and they built forts
2 against it round about. So the
city was besieged unto the
eleventh year of king Zedekiah.
3 On the ninth day of the *fourth*
month the famine was sore in
the city, so that there was no
bread for the people of the land.
4 Then a breach was made in the
city, and all the men of war *fled*
by night by the way of the gate

[1] See Jer. lii. 1, &c.
[2] Heb. *Hamital.*

11 **Zedekiah** was twenty and
one years old when he began to
reign; and he reigned eleven
12 years in Jerusalem: and he did
that which was evil in the sight
of the LORD his God; he
humbled not himself before Je-
remiah the prophet *speaking*
from the mouth of the LORD.
13 And he also rebelled against
king Nebuchadnezzar, who had
made him swear by God: but
he stiffened his neck, and [1]hard-
ened his heart from turning unto
the LORD, the God of Israel.
14 Moreover all the chiefs of the
priests, and the people, tres-
passed very greatly after all the
abominations of the heathen;
and they polluted the house of
the LORD which he had hallowed
15 in Jerusalem. And the LORD,
the God of their fathers, sent to
them by his messengers, rising
up early and sending; because
he had compassion on his people,
16 and on his dwelling place: but
they mocked the messengers of
God, and despised his words,
and scoffed at his prophets, until
the wrath of the LORD arose
against his people, till there was
17 no [2]remedy. Therefore he

[1] Heb. *strengthened.*
[2] Heb. *healing.*

between the two walls, which
was by the king's garden: (now
the Chaldeans were against the
city round about:) and *the king*
went by the way of the Arabah.
5 But the army of the Chaldeans
pursued after the king, and over-
took him in the plains of
Jericho: and all his army was
6 scattered from him. Then they
took the king, and carried him
up unto the king of Babylon to
Riblah; and they [1]gave judge-
7 ment upon him. And they slew
the sons of **Zedekiah** before his
eyes, and put out the eyes of
Zedekiah, and bound him in
fetters, and carried him to
Babylon.
8 Now in the fifth month, on the
seventh day of the month, which
was the nineteenth year of king
Nebuchadnezzar, king of Baby-
lon, came Nebuzaradan the
captain of the guard, a servant
of the king of Babylon, unto
9 Jerusalem: and he burnt the
house of the LORD, and the
king's house; and all the houses
of Jerusalem, even every great
10 house, burnt he with fire. And
all the army of the Chaldeans,
that were *with* the captain of
the guard, brake down the walls
11 of Jerusalem round about. And
the residue of the people that
were left in the city, and those
that fell away, that fell to the
king of Babylon, and the residue
of the multitude, did Nebuzar-
adan the captain of the guard
12 carry away captive. But the
captain of the guard left of the
poorest of the land to be vine-
13 dressers and husbandmen. And
the pillars of brass that were in
the house of the LORD, and the

brought upon them the king of
the Chaldeans, who slew their
young men with the sword in the
house of their sanctuary, and
had no compassion upon young
man or maiden, old man or
ancient: he gave them all into
18 his hand. And all the vessels of
the house of God, great and
small, and the treasures of the
house of the LORD, and the
treasures of the king, and of his
princes; all these he brought to
19 Babylon. And they burnt the
house of God, and brake down
the wall of Jerusalem, and burnt
all the palaces thereof with fire,
and destroyed all the goodly
20 vessels thereof. And them that
had escaped from the sword
carried he away to Babylon; and
they were servants to him and
his sons until the reign of the
21 kingdom of Persia: to fulfil the
word of the LORD by the mouth
of Jeremiah, until the land had
enjoyed her sabbaths: *for* as
long as she lay desolate she kept
sabbath, to fulfil threescore and
ten years.

[1] Or, *spake with him of judgement*

bases and the brasen sea that were in the house of the LORD,
did the Chaldeans break in pieces, and carried the brass of
14 them to Babylon. And the pots, and the shovels, and the
snuffers, and the spoons, and all the vessels of brass wherewith
15 they ministered, took they away. And the firepans, and the basons;
that which was of gold, in gold, and that which was of silver, in silver,
16 the captain of the guard took away. The two pillars, the one sea, and
the bases, which Solomon had made for the house of the LORD; the
17 brass of all these vessels was without weight. The height of the one
pillar was eighteen cubits, and a chapiter of brass was upon it: and the
height of the chapiter was three cubits; with network and pomegranates
upon the chapiter round about, all of brass: and like unto these had
18 the second pillar with network. And the captain of the guard took
Seraiah the chief priest, and Zephaniah the second priest, and the three
19 keepers of the [1]door: and out of the city he took an [2]officer that was
set over the men of war; and five men of them that saw the king's face,
which were found in the city; and the [3]scribe, the captain of the host,
which mustered the people of the land; and threescore men of the
20 people of the land, that were found in the city. And Nebuzaradan the
captain of the guard took them, and brought them to the king of
21 Babylon to Riblah. And the king of Babylon smote them, and put
them to death at Riblah in the land of Hamath. So Judah was carried
away captive out of his land.

The Government and Murder of Gedaliah.

22 And as for the people that were left in the land of Judah, whom
Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon had left, even over them he made
Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, governor.
23 [4]Now when all the captains of the forces, they and their men, heard
that the king of Babylon had made Gedaliah governor, they came to
Gedaliah to Mizpah, even Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, and Johanan
the son of Kareah, and Seraiah the son of Tanhumeth the Netophathite,
24 and Jaazaniah the son of the Maacathite, they and their men. And
Gedaliah sware to them and to their men, and said unto them, Fear
not because of the servants of the Chaldeans: dwell in the land, and
25 serve the king of Babylon, and it shall be well with you. [5]But it came
to pass in the seventh month, that Ishmael the son of Nethaniah, the
son of Elishama, of the seed royal, came, and ten men with him, and
smote Gedaliah, that he died, and the Jews and the Chaldeans that
26 were with him at Mizpah. And all the people, both small and great,
and the captains of the forces, arose, and came to Egypt: for they were
afraid of the Chaldeans.

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[1] Heb. *threshold.*
[2] Or, *eunuch*
[3] Or, *scribe of the captain of the host*
[4] See Jer. xl. 7—9.
[5] See Jer. xli. 1, 2.

Jehoiachin in Babylon.

27 [1]And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity
of **Jehoiachin** king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and
twentieth day of the month, that Evil-merodach king of Babylon, in the
year that he began to reign, did lift up the head of Jehoiachin king of
28 Judah out of prison; and he spake kindly to him, and set his throne
29 above the throne of the kings that were with him in Babylon. And he
changed his prison garments, and did eat bread before him continually
30 all the days of his life. And for his allowance, there was a continual
allowance given him of the king, every day a portion, all the days of his
life.

2 Chronicles 36. 22.

The Return from Captivity.

22 [2]Now in the first year of [3]Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the
LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD
stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclama-
tion throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying,
23 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the
LORD, the God of heaven, given me; and he hath charged me to build
him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whosoever there is
among you of all his people, the LORD his God be with him, and let
him go up.

[1] See Jer. lii. 31—34. [2] See Ezra i. 1—3. [3] Heb. *Coresh.*

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